DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 413 090 PS 025 950

AUTHOR	Smith, Shelley, Ed.; Fisher, Karen, Ed.; Lays, Julie, Ed.
TITLE	Children, Youth and Family Issues. 1996 State Legislative Summary. A Publication of the Children and Families Program.
INSTITUTION	National Conference of State Legislatures, Denver, CO.
SPONS AGENCY	Carnegie Corp. of New York, NY.; Edna McConnell Clark Foundation, New York, NY.; Mott (C.S.) Foundation, Flint, MI.; Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquent Prevention (Dept. of Justice), Washington, DC.; Pew Charitable Trusts, Philadelphia, PA.
ISBN	ISBN-1-55516-605-9
PUB DATE	1996-12-00
NOTE	139p.; For 1995 summary, see ED 392 543.
AVAILABLE FROM	National Conference of State Legislatures, 1560 Broadway, Suite 700, Denver, CO 80202; phone: 303-830-2054; fax: 303-863-8003; World Wide Web: http://www.ncsl.org (Item No. 6136, $25, plus $4 shipping and handling. Residents in Colorado must add 7.3% sales tax and residents in District of Columbia, must add 6% sales tax).
PUB TYPE	Reports - Descriptive (141)
EDRS PRICE	EDRS Price MF01 Plus Postage. PC Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	At Risk Persons; Child Abuse; Child Health; Child Neglect; Child Support; Child Welfare; *Children; Day Care; Early Childhood Education; *Family (Sociological Unit); Juvenile Justice; Mental Health; School Age Day Care; *State Legislation; Substance Abuse; Welfare Services; *Youth; Youth Problems
IDENTIFIERS	Child Support Enforcement; Day Care Regulations; Family Law; Family Support; Welfare Reform

ABSTRACT

This book is a compilation of summaries of newly enacted state legislation affecting children and families. It documents legislative activity, emerging trends, and innovative policies in the states, providing information essential to effective policymaking. Part 1 describes the National Conference of State Legislatures' Children and Families Program. The bulk of the book provides summaries of state legislation in the following areas: (1) abuse and neglect, including background checks, prevention and treatment, registries and records, and sexual offender registries; (2) child care and early childhood education, including regulation and licensing, child care in public schools, and support for providers; (3) child mental health; (4) child support enforcement, including court procedures, enforcement techniques, interstate enforcement, and paternity; (5) child welfare, including adoption, family preservation services and permanency plans, foster care, and termination of parental rights; (6) family law, focusing on custody and visitation and domestic law; (7) general legislation related to children, youth, and families; (8) juvenile justice, including financing, jurisdiction, procedures, and weapons offenses; (9) substance abuse and control, including prevention, education, and tobacco use control; (10) welfare reform and public assistance, including eligibility, employment-related policies, family caps, child exclusion, fraud, teen parents, and time limits; and (11) youth at risk, including missing and homeless children, school drop-outs,

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suspension, school safety, and truancy. Within each category, legislation is listed alphabetically according to state. (KB)

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Children, Youth and Family Issues

1996 State Legislative Summary

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1996 STATE LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

Children, Youth and Family Issues

A publication of the
Children and Families Program

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December 1996

The National Conference of State Legislatures serves the legislators and staffs of the nation's 50 states, its commonwealths, and territories. NCSL was created in January 1975 from the merger of three organizations that served or represented state legislatures.

NCSL is a bipartisan organization with three objectives:

- To improve the quality and effectiveness of state legislatures;
- To foster interstate communication and cooperation; and
- To ensure states a strong, cohesive voice in the federal system.

The conference has offices in Denver, Colorado, and Washington, D.C.

Printed on recycled paper.

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ISBN 1-55516-605-9

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FOREWORD

The Children and Families Program within the National Conference of State Legislatures is dedicated to providing policymakers with information critical to bettering the lives of America's families. The *1996 State Legislative Summary: Children, Youth and Family Issues* is one of the many products and services the program offers.

Published annually since 1983, this book is a compilation of summaries of newly enacted state legislation affecting children and families. It documents legislative activity, emerging trends and innovative policies in the states, information essential to effective policymaking.

As public concern heightens regarding this nation's primary domestic problems—child abuse, juvenile delinquency, health and welfare—lawmakers are recognizing that families play a key role in ameliorating and preventing some of these societal ills. They are looking at how to craft public policy in ways that strengthen and support families and protect all children, particularly our most vulnerable. Welfare reform is drawing increased attention as states transform their welfare programs into work-based initiatives.

The summaries serve to profile state innovations. Citations necessary for further, more in-depth research are also provided to help legislators and legislative staff working in these policy areas.

In addition to the annual legislative summary, the Children and Families Program offers a variety of other publications, research, and technical assistance to state legislators and their staff. We encourage constituents to contact the Denver office staff for a publications list or additional information.

Senator Nadine Thomas, Georgia
Chair
Children, Families and Health Committee
Assembly on State Issues

Dennis A. Arakaki
Representative Dennis A. Arakaki, Hawaii
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Assembly on State Issues

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Assembly on State Issues

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The 1996 Legislative Summary is a cooperative effort of the states and the Children and Families Program at the National Conference of State Legislatures. The program staff gratefully acknowledge and appreciate the assistance of all legislative staff contacts, for without their efforts and thoroughness, this compilation of enacted legislation would not be possible.

The publication of this book is supported by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation, the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Pew Charitable Trusts, and NCSL.

The following Children and Families Program staff worked on the publication: Georgina Bickford, Mary Fairchild, Scott Groginsky, Barbara Houlik, Dana Reichert, Shelley Smith, Jack Tweedie, Nina Williams-Mbengue and Adelia Yee. Georgina Bickford served as project coordinator and Dana Reichert designed the cover.

Lorraine Dixon-Jones served as a consultant.

The publication was edited by Shelley Smith, Karen Fisher, and Julie Lays.

INTRODUCTION

In an ongoing effort to document and track legislative activity on issues critical to children and families, the Children and Families Program of the National Conference of State Legislatures has published an annual state legislative summary for the past 14 years.

This publication is a joint effort between the program and the states. Every year, key legislative staff contacts provide NCSL with the latest enactments affecting children and families. After the bills are summarized, the state contacts review the work for accuracy.

In December the book is distributed to legislative libraries and the chairs of committees dealing with children and family issues. The publication is available for legislative constituents on NCSLnet and to others, in hard copy, through NCSL's marketing department.

For the majority of states the publication includes all current year enactments. However, 10 legislatures—California, the District of Columbia, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin—hold year-long sessions. Enactments for these states included those signed into law between July 1, 1995, and June 30, 1996.

Arkansas, Louisiana, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, and Texas did not hold regular sessions in 1996.

NCSL appreciates any suggestions regarding this effort to provide a complete and comprehensive legislative summary. To comment, please call or write to NCSL's Children and Families Program in the Denver office.

THE NCSL CHILDREN AND FAMILIES PROGRAM

NCSL's Children and Families program provides services to legislators and staff working to improve state policies affecting children and their families. The program tracks legislation, provides research, and offers policy analysis, consultation, and technical assistance specifically geared to the legislative audience. The following services are available at no cost to legislators and staff:

- Research assistance
- Information
- On-Line Information Cites
- Technical assistance
- Publications
- Human Services Discussion Group

An e-mail discussion list—currently focusing on welfare issues—is available to help you communicate with NCSL staff and colleagues in other states. After signing up, you can ask questions or provide information from your state to NCSL staff and other legislators and staff who have also subscribed to the list—HumanServices-L. Messages are sent and delivered to you via your Internet e-mail address. Remember that all messages are available to all other subscribers and participation is limited to legislators, legislative staff, and NCSL staff. To subscribe, send an e-mail to dana.reichert@ncsl.org. Give your name, position, voice phone number and e-mail address. The service will normally be available to you within two working days of your request.

Web pages provide a convenient and powerful means for circulating reports and analyses as well as announcing meetings and other developments. The Children and Families Program maintains a home page dedicated to providing information about the topics related to children and families. The Children and Families Home Page is located at http://www.ncsl.org/public/cfh.htm. In addition, NCSL has set up a separate welfare area as part of its Web site. The welfare page contains information about federal and state actions, summaries of innovative state legislation, evaluations of welfare-to-work programs, analyses of other welfare reform issues and links to other Web sites on welfare. The welfare area can be accessed at http://www.ncsl.org/statefed/welfare/welfare.htm.

Technical assistance includes testimony at committee hearings, briefing sessions for state legislators and their staffs, and bill drafting and analysis. Resources and expertise are provided by program staff, national experts, and legislators through the following projects.

PROJECT AREAS

Child Care — Funded through grants from the Carnegie Corporation of New York and The Pew Charitable Trusts, this project assists state legislators to expand and improve good early childhood care and education services with particular emphasis on developing options for low-income populations. As states implement new welfare reform systems, including new child care services, staff can assist policymakers with information and consultation for services. Other issue areas include licensing and regulations, training and support for child care providers, and building the supply of affordable, good child care for all families.

Child Welfare — Funded by the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation, this project assists state legislators to improve state child protective service systems. All resources are available to help legislators develop comprehensive, community-based child protection system—one that emphasize differentiated responses for families and a continuum of services ranging from home visitation and other prevention services to intensive family preservation and placement services. Project staff also provide information on adoption, abuse and neglect, foster care, child protection, welfare reform, interagency coordination, collaboration, and financing services.

Human Service Reorganization — With funding from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, staff are helping legislators examine and implement effective human service delivery systems.

Juvenile Justice — Funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, this project helps state legislators explore the causes of juvenile crime and delinquency, craft comprehensive responses to youth crime and examine model prevention approaches. Special emphasis is placed on cross jurisdictional approaches involving human services, children, criminal justice and judiciary committees to develop comprehensive juvenile justice policy. The project is jointly administered through NCSL's Children and Families and Criminal Justice programs.

Welfare Reform — Through a grant from the Welfare Information Network (WIN) and the Stewart S. Mott Foundation, project staff assist states in implementing welfare reform. State policymakers are transforming welfare from cash assistance to work-based programs, and will be implementing these reforms under the newly established federal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program. Information is available on implementing TANF and key questions such as expanding the supply of jobs and safety programs

For more information, call or write program staff at the National Conference of State Legislatures, 1560 Broadway, Suite 700, Denver, Colorado, 80202; (303) 830 2200; Fax (303) 863-8003. Visit the Children and Families Home Page at http://www.ncsl.org/public/cfh.htm.

- Shelley Smith, program director—child welfare, systems reform, general children and families
- Steve Christian—child welfare, child care
- Mary Fairchild—juvenile justice, youth at risk
- Scott Groginsky—child care/early childhood education
- Barbara Houlik—child care, general children and families
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- Jack Tweedie—welfare policy
- Nina Williams-Mbengue—child abuse, child welfare, child sexual abuse
- Adelia Yee—adoption, juvenile justice

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AFDC	Aid to Families with Dependent Children
ADC	Aid to Dependent Children
CASA	court appointed special advocate
CINA	child in need of assistance
CPS	Child Protective Services
CRC	crisis residential center
DHS	Department of Human Services
DCF	Department of Children and Families
DUI	driving under the influence
FIP	Family Investment Program
FPL	Federal Poverty Level
FPS	family preservation services
FY	fiscal year
GAL	guardian ad litem
GAIN	Greater Avenues for Independence
GED	general equivalency diploma
HCR	House Concurrent Resolution
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HJR	House Joint Resolution
HR	House Resolution
ICWA	Indian Child Welfare Act
JOBS	Job Opportunity and Basic Skills
PINS	person in need of supervision
SCR	Senate Concurrent Resolution
SJR	Senate Joint Resolution
SOS	Support Our Students
SR	Senate Resolution
SSI	Supplemental Security Income
R & R's	Resource and Referral Agencies
TBI	Tennessee Bureau of Investigations
TCC	Transitional Child Care
Title IV-D	Child Support Section of the Social Security Act
UIFSA	Uniform Interstate Family Support Act
URESA	Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act
WAGES	Work and Gain Economic Self-Sufficiency

ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Background Checks/Screening

AZ *1996 Ariz. Sess. Laws, Chap. 325*
Prohibits licensees or certification of a child care center or group home during any pending enforcement or court action related to the center's licensee. Allows court or enforcement action against a licensee or certificate holder during a sale or transfer. Requires a full transfer of control before approval of center or home ownership changes.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 284*
Requires fingerprinting and criminal history background checks for specified county welfare employees who have frequent contact with children. Allows county welfare director to obtain criminal records to determine if employees who have criminal records should have frequent contact with children. Prohibits contact in cases involving a sex offense against a minor.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 63*
Sec. 9-10—Identifies the crimes requiring the state to deny or revoke a child care or foster care license. Adds conviction of certain drug crimes as cause for legal action. Authorizes legal action for failure to comply with minimum safety and sanitation standards.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, Act 262*
Sec. 10—Prohibits child care subsidies to unlicensed child care providers who have been convicted of specified crimes against minors. Allows the state to order criminal history checks on those suspected of such convictions. Outlines criminal history check procedures.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 290*
Expands background checks to include all felony offenses.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 19*
Requires updates of criminal history records checks for child care providers, volunteers, and potential adoptive parents. Requires periodic verification of continuing licensure or regulatory approval, including local child placement agencies. Requires more specific dispositions in criminal history check reports.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 440*
Sec. 49, Art. 1—Requires the state to administer and maintain a computerized juvenile history record system. Allows access by criminal justice agencies, trial and appellate courts, and authorizes dissemination of records for a background check under certain circumstances, if the background check is required by law.

MS *1996 Miss. Laws, HB 403*
Expands the list of convictions that prohibit a child care employee or volunteer from providing services. Prohibits child care employees or volunteers from providing services if a court declared their child in need of care based on an allegation of abuse or neglect or if their parental rights were terminated.

NE *1996 Neb. Laws, L.B. 754*
Requires teaching or administrative certificate applicants to undergo background checks, unless the applicant has been a state resident for at least five years. Authorizes denial for a felony or misdemeanor conviction of abuse, neglect or sexual misconduct.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 200*
Sec. 1—Requires criminal history investigations for employment applicants in any child care facility that is licensed or approved by a child-placing agency and located in a private residence. Outlines exemptions. Requires a criminal history investigation for any foster family applicant and for any adult residing in the home. Prohibits registered sex offenders from residing in a child care facility.

Sec. 11—Prohibits a court from placing a child in the custody of a registered sex offender or a person convicted of any crime involving domestic abuse, or someone married to or living with such offenders. Requires the court to investigate previous or pending felony convictions or relevant misdemeanors before placing a child in custody of an individual.

PA *1996 Pa. Laws, HB 5284*
Sec. 6—Authorizes the state to conduct limited criminal checks before certifying relatives to care for children.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 450*
Sec. 20—Requires that the department be given access to law enforcement records and county sex abuse registers to do background checks.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 1053*
Sec. 1—Requires zoning authorities to conduct background checks for individuals who operate or manage an existing or planned child welfare agency.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 318*
Requires criminal background checks of proposed placements, including relatives, before placement of the child.

WA *1996 Wash. Laws, Chap. 27*
Authorizes the state to require criminal history background checks for employees of the special commitment center.

WY *1996 Wyo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 94*
Requires criminal background checks for school employees and allows the suspension or revocation of teacher certification for felony convictions.

Court Procedures and Considerations

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, P.A. 246*
Sec. 13—Allows a husband and wife to testify in child abuse proceedings without privilege against disclosure. Defines evidence sufficient to adjudicate a child uncared for or neglected.

ID *1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, SB 1459*
Defines the rights of parents with joint custody of a child involved in abuse or neglect proceedings.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 151*
Sec. 276—Allows foster parents or pre-adoptive parents and children to testify in the courtroom concerning the welfare of a child under certain conditions.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 177*
Requires notice of a petition of guardianship for children adjudicated abused and neglected to the attorney who represented the child.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 200*
Sec. 4—Allows a court to transfer a proceeding regarding an allegedly deprived child to the district court in another county when it is in the best interests of the child. Outlines procedure for determining that judicial district has jurisdiction over a child.

Sec. 7-8—Allows the district attorney or child's attorney to object to and seek review of a court order allowing release of a child from state custody, based on the grounds that the child will be at risk of physical or sexual abuse. Outlines procedures of review. Allows representatives from the department to present sworn testimony regarding the child's release.

Sec. 10—Requires approval from the court before the department can return a child to a parent that contributed to the abuse or neglect of the child.

Sec. 11—Prohibits a court from placing a child in the custody of a registered sex offender or a person convicted of any crime involving domestic abuse, or married to or living with such offenders. Requires the court to investigate previous or pending felony convictions or relevant misdemeanors prior to placing a child in custody of an individual.

Sec. 16—Requires a 12-month period of supervision by the court once conditions of a court-ordered service plan have been met or when allegations have been corrected.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 21*
Prohibits the release of a child from detention or shelter care if the failure to hold a hearing within 10 days resulted from the unavailability of a witness because of conduct by or on behalf of the child.

PR *1996 Puerto Rico Laws, PC 1508*
Outlines procedures for testimony by child victims via closed-circuit television and specifies who may be present.

RI *1996 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 45*
Permits the court to inquire into paternity of an allegedly abused or neglected child, and requires that the putative father be notified. Removes obligation on the part of the department to make unification efforts between the child and the putative father if the father fails to appear or denies his paternity.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 450*
Sec. 20—Changes the standard for removal to "substantial and imminent" danger to the child. Allows for emergency medical care for the child, at the parents' expense, after removal. Authorizes the department to withhold information about the child's location from parents to ensure the child's safety. Delays taking child into actual custody for 24 hours after removal. Requires a court hearing within 72 hours, rather than the present 10 days, if the child is taken into custody. Allows a court hearing by conference call or videoconference.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 962*
Sec. 1—Prohibits the issuance of an arrest warrant, summons or criminal charges against a child's parent, guardian or custodian for unreasonable corporal punishment unless the affidavit of complaint also contains a copy of the law enforcement report or independent medical verification of injury to the child.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 1*
Sec. 29—Authorizes the court to issue search warrants and subpoenas in criminal cases, delinquency, and neglect proceedings for the same purposes and by the same procedures as those in the criminal code.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 83*
Specifies steps the courts may allow parents to take to avoid a finding of abuse and neglect.

Definitions/Offenses/Penalties

AZ *1996 Ariz. Sess. Laws, Chap. 291*
Defines abandonment.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 19*
Sec. 1—Consolidates definitions from the Colorado Children's Code into one statutory provision including child care, child abuse, juvenile justice, out-of-home placement, adoption, mental health, and legal matters.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, Chap. 451 (1996)*
Sec. 2—Enhances the penalties for endangering the welfare of a child if the child is seriously injured, or dies.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 943*
Sec. 1—Defines the crime of cruelty to children and sets penalties; repeals all other laws in conflict with this act.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 969*
Specifies that child neglect consists of lack of supervision, or the disregard of the caretaker for a child's basic needs for food, shelter, medical care, or education repeatedly or through a single incident that places a child at substantial risk of harm.

Defines child sexual abuse and specifies that child sexual abuse is not a consensual act between minors or between a minor and an adult not more than five years older than the minor. Clarifies that these provisions do not repeal laws concerning age or capacity to consent.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 3*
Sec. 1—Adds manslaughter of the elderly, handicapped or minors under age 8 to the list of crimes subject to an extended term of imprisonment.

ME	*1995 Me. Public Laws, Chap. 689* Increases the penalty for criminal restraint of a child under age 8.
MI	*1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, Act 97* Suspends without hearing the certification or other qualifications of school personnel convicted of certain crimes against children.
MS	*1996 Miss. Laws, HB 404* *Sec.* 1—Stipulates that physical discipline, not to include any form of sexual abuse, is deemed child abuse only when a licensed physician has determined physical injury occurred.
MT	*1995 Mont. Laws, HB 540* Specifies that acts not resulting in deliberate harm to a child, but done in self-defense, the defense of others, or to prevent self-harm to the child do not constitute child abuse.
NC	*1995 N.C. Sess. Laws, Chap. 745* Makes it a Class F felony for any person to abduct or induce a minor child to leave any person, agency, or institution lawfully entitled to the child's custody, placement or care.
OK	*1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 200* *Sec.* 3—Adds agent or employee of a public or private residential home, institution, facility or day treatment program to the list of people responsible for a child's health or welfare. *Sec.* 15—Clarifies what is meant by parent or other person permitting child abuse or neglect.
PA	*1995 Pa. Laws, Act 31* Increases the penalty from a misdemeanor to a felony for involuntary manslaughter of a child under age 12 while under the care of the person who caused the death, and for a course of conduct of endangering the welfare of a child.
PR	*1996 Puerto Rico Laws, PS 1464* Increases the penalty, to incarceration, for not following a court order to feed a child.
RI	*1996 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 81* *Sec.* 1—Adds female genital mutilation to the definition of serious bodily injury.
RI	*1995 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 211* *Sec.* 1—Defines knowingly or intentionally inflicting serious bodily or physical injury upon a child, by a caretaker, as child abuse. Sets penalties, fines and punishment.
RI	*1996 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 90 and 109* *Sec.* 1—Makes battery by an adult upon a child 10 years or younger, resulting in serious bodily injury, a felony. Sets punishment and fines.
SC	*1996 S.C. Acts, Act 450* *Sec.* 20—Defines the term "child" as a person under age 18. Adds failure to provide appropriate supervision as neglect. Adds that a threat of physical or mental injury must exist to constitute neglectful conduct. Clarifies mental injury. Expands categories of those who can be charged with unlawful neglect. Prohibits parents from being prosecuted for criminal child neglect or abandonment for excluding an incorrigible 17-year-old from the home. Defines "preponderance of evidence," "abandonment of child," "guardianship," "legal custody," "party in interest," "physical custody," "emergency physical custody," and "emergency protective custody." Clarifies that a family court determination that medical intervention is necessary to prevent death or permanent harm to the child is not abuse, in cases where medical treatment has been withheld for religious reasons. Defines a newborn child as abused or neglected if the newborn, another child of the same mother, or the new mother test positive for controlled substances, or if the mother at another birth tested positive. Requires the parents' participation in an alcohol and drug abuse treatment program as part of a case plan where the child was removed due to addiction of the parent. Authorizes the court to hold the department in-contempt for failure to comply with the treatment plan.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 857*
Sec. 1 and 2—Defines and prohibits the practice of female genital mutilation. Sets penalties and provides for exemptions.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 962*
Sec. 1—Prohibits the issuance of an arrest warrant, summons or criminal charges against a child's parent, guardian or custodian for unreasonable corporal punishment unless the affidavit of complaint also contains a copy of the law enforcement report or independent medical verification of injury to the child.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 1069*
Sec. 1—Adds neglect to the definition of aggravated child abuse.

VT *1996 Vt. Acts, Act 145*
Sec. 5—Expands the definition of risk of harm for the purpose of defining child abuse, to include neglect, emotional abuse or sexual abuse.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 83*
Specifies steps the courts may allow parents to take to avoid a finding of abuse and neglect.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 106*
Makes child abuse or neglect that creates a risk of injury a criminal offense. Creates a penalty for abuse or gross neglect creating a substantial risk of serious bodily injury or death.

Financing

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 471*
Sec. 1-5—Increases the number of counties from five to six that can participate in a five-year children's services pilot program to transfer funding for specific services into a single, blended children and family services fund. Extends program duration to July 1, 2002.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 175*
Sec. 73—Establishes priorities for subsidized child care funds, including children who are in need of protective services, at-risk of welfare dependency, with migrant or teen parents, or those whose families are under the poverty line, or with working families under 150 percent of the poverty line.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 235*
Authorizes the Children's Trust Fund to be used for statewide abuse and neglect prevention, prohibiting money used for staffing the trust fund board from being granted to a state or local unit of government. Transfers balance of the Child Abuse Prevention Fund to the Children's Trust Fund.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 1373*
Establishes a child advocacy fund in each county to assist in developing interdisciplinary responses to abuse and neglect. Increases the fee for certain offenders who have committed crimes against children and allocates these revenues to the fund.

Legal Representation/Ad Litems/Special Advocates

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 218*
Sec. 1—Establishes a court-appointed special advocate (CASA) program in each judicial district. Sets minimum program requirements. Outlines qualifications, duties, training needs, restrictions, and confidentiality and immunity guidelines for CASA volunteers.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, P.A. 246*
Sec. 13—Allows the court to order the child, parents, guardian or other alleged perpetrator to be examined by medical and mental health professionals appointed by the court. Requires a child to be represented by court appointed counsel. Allows a court appointed guardian ad litem (GAL) to speak on behalf of the best interests of the child.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 245*
Establishes a volunteer CASA program based in each judicial district. Authorizes appointment of CASA volunteers in the best interests of the child. Specifies duties and powers of CASA volunteers.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 294*
Sec. 1—Allows a GAL to advocate for the client's best interest. Removes obligation of a GAL without an appointment, to initiate action or to defend the client in other proceedings.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 200*
Sec. 5—Requires the court to appoint an attorney for a child if evidence of abuse or neglect is found during an action for a divorce, annulment, custody or appointment of a guardian.

Sec. 6—Requires an attorney appointed for a child to meet with the child not less than 24 hours prior to any hearing for the child. Establishes a CASA program to be made available in each judicial district.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 13*
Allows GALs to be employees and not just contractors of the Office of Guardian Ad Litem.

WY *1996 Wyo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 106*
Sec. 14-6-235—Requires parent or guardian to pay legal representation costs.

Organization/Oversight

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 230*
Sec. 6 (19-1-311)—Creates an information management committee to develop a legislative proposal to implement plans for a cross-agency, centralized integrated data base system to track children receiving state services.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, Chap. 590 (1996)*
Sec. 2—Increases the membership of the state children's trust fund.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 859*
Sec. 1—Attaches the statewide Child Abuse Prevention Panel to the Department of Human Resources for administrative purposes only. Requires the Children's Trust Fund to provide necessary staff support for the panel. Outlines panel duties, including establishing procedures for investigating child death, reviewing policies of the Division of Family and Children's Services and monitoring and reporting on the statewide prevention plan.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 24*
Sec. 1—Revises child protection team composition in each community.

Sec. 2—Allows a child protection team to receive and review complaints regarding child abuse and neglect cases brought to the team by a person or an agency.

Sec. 3—Allows child protection team access to confidential child abuse and neglect reports.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 347*
Sec. 1-6—Allows the establishment of a state child fatality review team and allows counties or groups of contiguous counties to establish local child fatality response teams. Defines membership, duties, and procedures for state and local teams. Gives local teams and coroner access to confidential child abuse and neglect investigation records.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, Act 146*
Allows the state child abuse and neglect prevention board to contract with charitable organizations.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 1079*
Sec. 3, 183—Creates the Department of Children's Services to integrate child welfare, juvenile justice, and certain functions from health, education, and mental health agencies to improve services to children in or at risk of state custody. Creates a joint legislative committee to oversee implementation. Extends the duration of the Joint Select Committee on Children and Youth.

WA *1996 Wash. Laws, Chap. 131*
Sec. 1—Creates a legislative children's oversight committee and an office of the family and children's ombudsman to monitor policies and programs, especially for children in state care.

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Prevention/Treatment/Training

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 230*
Requires the state auditor to conduct programmatic reviews of all state prevention and intervention programs. Specifies information sharing procedures.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, P.A. 246*
Sec. 22—Allows the establishment of multidisciplinary child abuse and neglect investigation teams to review cases and coordinate the prevention, intervention and treatment of child abuse. Outlines membership and duties of the team.

Sec. 24—Allows the department to consider the existence and impact of family violence in any child abuse investigation and to assist family members in obtaining protection from family violence.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, Chap. 381 (1996)*
Sec. 304—Makes all dependent or neglected children wards of the state. Requires the department to supervise, care for, board, and place such children.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 859*
Sec. 1—Outlines duties of the Child Abuse Prevention Panel, including establishing procedures for investigating child death, reviewing policies of the Division of Family and Children's Services, and monitoring and reporting on the statewide prevention plan.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 302*
Sec. 2-6—Establishes a three-year child protective and diversion services pilot project and a child protective services reform coordinating committee. Outlines project and committee activities including the establishment of two "neighborhood place" sites for child welfare service delivery, a statewide central telephone intake system offering child welfare information and services, staff training, an evaluation component, and reporting requirements.

IL *1996 Ill. Laws, P.A. 89-543*
Allows the advisory board to develop protocol for interagency coordination in dealing with serious child abuse cases.

IL *1996 Ill. Laws, P.A. 89-648*
Requires child care center licensees and employees who are mandated reporters to attend training on recognizing child abuse and neglect.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 235*
Authorizes the Children's Trust Fund to be used for statewide abuse and neglect prevention, prohibiting money used for staffing the trust fund board from being granted to a state or local unit of government. Transfers balance of the Child Abuse Prevention Fund to the Children's Trust Fund.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 1373*
Establishes a child advocacy fund in each county to assist in developing interdisciplinary responses to abuse and neglect. Increases the fee for certain offenders who have committed crimes against children and allocates these revenues to the fund.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 188*
Establishes supervised child visitation centers, specifies conditions for use and appropriates funds. Removes notification requirement to noncustodial parent if the noncustodial parent has been convicted of a crime against the child.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 312*
Sec. 2—Raises the fee for obtaining birth records. Allocates part of increase to contracts with private nonprofit self-help and education groups providing services to prevent child abuse.

NE *1996 Neb. Laws, L.B. 842*
Requires the state patrol to provide an immediate response to inquiries from local law enforcement in rural areas on proper child abuse and neglect investigative procedures. Requires trained and knowledgeable investigators to handle inquiries.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 200*
Sec. 2—Requires all judges having juvenile or domestic docket responsibility to attend training related to juvenile law, child abuse and neglect, and domestic abuse.

Sec. 11—Requires approval from the court before the state can return a child to a parent that contributed to the abuse or neglect of the child.

Sec. 17—Adds a representative of the Oklahoma Coalition on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault to the Child Abuse Training and Coordination Council.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 450*
Sec. 20—Authorizes the development of temporary crisis placement facilities where parents may voluntarily place children for up to 72 hours during a family crisis.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 309*
Creates a center to provide a multidisciplinary response to child sexual abuse and serious physical abuse in an additional county. Grants an appropriation.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 318*
Sec. 10—Requires school districts to assess special education needs of children entering protective custody, upon request.

VT *1996 Vt. Acts, Act 137*
Requires the state to report on children with a severe emotional disturbance who do not receive services. Specifies that services are not to be conditioned on placement in legal custody or protective services.

VT *1996 Vt. Acts, Act 178*
Sec. 300—Makes state provision of services optional in cases where there is evidence of abuse or neglect. Requires a report to the Legislature.

WA *1996 Wash. Laws, Chap. 10*
Increases the membership of the Council for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect to include representation from the health department.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 113*
Authorizes educational programs for children placed in residential facilities for custody and treatment.

Registries and Records

AZ *1996 Ariz. Sess. Laws, Chap. 261*
Extends access to confidential child abuse and neglect records to people performing preadoption investigations and to legislators with oversight of child protective services issues.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 230*
Sec. 6—Authorizes state agencies and schools to exchange information on dependency and neglect cases. Outlines a process for parental notification and consent.

Sec. 6 (19-1-301)—Allows state agencies, the judicial department, and school personnel to exchange certain information. Requires a consent form for voluntary exchange. Specifies procedures in involuntary cases. Consolidates all records provisions in children's code.

Sec. 8—Restricts the court from prohibiting the release of dependency and neglect records if an alleged juvenile offender is or was a child abuse victim.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 241*
Sec. 2-5—Requires the central child abuse and neglect registry to notify individuals whose names are referred by counties for placement on the registry. Specifies notification procedures, including the right to an administrative hearing. Outlines expungement procedures.

CT	*1996 Conn. Acts, Act 263* Requires the department to disclose identifying information of a child receiving services if the child is in imminent danger. Requires social services to provide written notice to clients that this information may be released.
CT	*1996 Conn. Acts, P.A. 246* *Sec.* 17—Expands the list of individuals and agencies who can access child abuse records without consent. Allows disclosure of general child abuse report information when an allegation of abuse or neglect has been made public. Sets conditions. Requires that law enforcement receive copies of child abuse records during investigations and prosecutions. *Sec.* 14—Creates a registry of child abuse and neglect reports. Outlines use of the registry and confidentiality provisions.
GA	*1996 Ga. Laws, Act 969* Allows child abuse advocacy centers access to child abuse records during investigation and treatment.
IN	*1996 Ind. Acts, Act 24* *Sec.* 3—Gives the child protection team access to confidential child abuse and neglect reports and information.
IN	*1996 Ind. Acts, Act 70* Requires parents be informed of their right to review child abuse and neglect records.
IN	*1996 Ind. Acts, Act 1119* *Sec.* 7—Requires criminal charges against an alleged perpetrator of child abuse to be filed in court in order to place a substantiated report on the registry. *Sec.* 8—Requires individuals placed on the registry to notify the registry of any legal name change within 10 business days.
KS	*1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 229* *Sec.* 35 (g)—Allows juvenile intake and assessment officers to view confidential child abuse and neglect records received by law enforcement agencies.
KY	*1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 347* *Sec.* 1-6—Defines membership, duties, and procedures for state and local teams. Gives local child fatality response teams and coroner access to confidential child abuse and neglect investigation records.
MD	*1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 430* Grants access to child abuse and neglect records to child care licensing personnel and directors of child care facilities and child placement agencies.
MI	*1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, Act 225* Authorizes access to child abuse and neglect records by child fatality review teams. Specifies team membership.
MO	*1996 Mo. Laws, SB 869* *Sec.* 630.167—Allows law enforcement, health, and social services officials to access confidential mental health reports following investigations of abuse or neglect.
NY	*1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 653* *Sec.* 2-4—Allows the department, social services district or other provider to release preventive services records, uniform case records and foster care information for the purposes of bona fide child welfare research. Sets confidentiality guidelines. *Sec.* 372-a—Requires the commissioner to appoint a child welfare research advisory panel to develop an agenda for child welfare research, to include developing guidelines for reviewing research projects, facilitating access to and ensuring confidentiality of records, and recommending appropriate dissemination of findings.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 200*
Sec. 18, 19—Expands the list of people and agencies allowed access, without a court order, to juvenile court and human services records for abuse and neglect investigations. Allows public disclosure of certain information regarding the investigation of the death of a child. Sets conditions and confidentiality.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 450*
Sec. 20—Limits access to the central registry. Requires that the department be given access to law enforcement records and county sex abuse registers for background checks. Allows for destruction of unfounded records. Requires that investigation and parent's rights information be given to the parent. Limits warrants to cases where necessary to complete the investigation. Allows a warrant to provide for an interview of the child and access to medical, school, and other records.

SD *1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 178*
Sec. 2—Allows an individual listed in the central registry to request an amendment of a substantiated report. Sets guidelines for administrative hearings, confidentiality, malicious reporting, and maintaining unsubstantiated reports.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 64*
Sec. 1-6—Allows information sharing among county social services, human services, community programs, developmental disabilities services units, and service contractors without the informed consent of the client.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 1*
Requires the establishment of a child abuse registry. Describes contents and sets guidelines and fees. Requires registration of unlicensed home care agencies in order to request information from registry. Requires authorized residential care facilities, day care centers and home care service providers to notify employees about the registry. Grants immunity to providers who disclose registry information for employment purposes, unless information is proved false.

Reporting/Investigations

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 391*
Sec. 1—Authorizes designated people within county health departments to receive and share with other agencies copies of reports made by health practitioners regarding suspected child abuse.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 63*
Sec. 16—Clarifies that social workers or workers in a family child care home or foster care home are required to report abuse and neglect.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, P.A. 246*
Sec. 1-7—Expands the list of mandatory reporters and extends the penalties. Changes time requirements. Requires development of a training program for mandated reporters. Specifies reporting requirements between the department and law enforcement, including notification of serious physical or sexual abuse or child death within 24 hours. Requires the oral report to contain specific information, if known.
Allows, rather than requires, a person who is not a mandated reporter to report to the department or law enforcement. Eliminates the requirement that oral reports be followed up with written reports. Provides immunity for good faith reporting. Sets penalties for false reporting and for employers retaliating against employees who are mandated reporters making good faith reports or testifying in abuse and neglect proceedings.

Sec. 8—Allows a physician to hold a child, in the custody of a hospital, whom he or she believes has been neglected, for not more than 96 hours. Authorizes physical photographs without parental consent. Makes the department responsible for the costs of the child's temporary medical care, diagnostic and test procedures if the family is not covered by insurance.

Sec. 9, 10—Requires the department to immediately evaluate and classify all abuse or neglect reports, including reports concerning school employees. Details investigation timelines and procedures. Requires an investigation within two hours of a report of immediate risk of physical harm. Allows the department and law enforcement to remove children without consent of the parent or guardian. Limits temporary removal to 96 hours.

Sec. 11, 15-16—Changes notification requirements in school abuse situations and requires a school superintendent to suspend a certified public or private school or institutional employee upon evidence of abuse. Authorizes the same for facilities providing child care. Requires local and regional boards of education to adopt written reporting policies on child abuse by school employees, and the state board to develop regulations for use and access to child abuse information.

Sec. 12—Requires the commissioner to notify the chief state's attorney upon reasonable cause that sexual abuse or serious physical abuse has occurred. Requires notification to the appropriate state licensing agency in cases of abuse and neglect in licensed institutions or facilities. Requires the department to refer people inflicting abuse to substance abuse treatment if needed.

Sec. 22—Allows the commissioner to establish multidisciplinary child abuse and neglect investigation teams to review cases and to coordinate the prevention, intervention, and treatment of child abuse. Outlines membership and duties.

Sec. 24—Allows the department to consider the existence and impact of family violence in any child abuse investigation and to assist family members in obtaining protection from family violence.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 969*
Sec. 1—Allows child advocacy centers to access child abuse records for investigation and treatment.

ID *1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, SB 1463*
Establishes local multidisciplinary teams to assess abuse and neglect referrals and develop protocols for the investigation of abuse and neglect cases.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 24*
Sec. 2—Allows a child protection team to receive and review complaints regarding child abuse and neglect cases brought to the team by a person or an agency.

Sec. 3—Gives the child protection team access to confidential child abuse and neglect reports and information.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 70*
Specifies timeframes by which parents must be notified that their child has been taken into custody due to abuse and neglect allegations.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, HB 1346*
Sec. 4—Establishes penalties for a person who knowingly makes a false child abuse or neglect report.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1175*
Requires child abuse reports to be assessed in 24 rather than 72 hours in areas that have child abuse assessment pilot projects. Allows the registry to record cases by perpetrators over age 14.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 139*
Sec. 1—Prohibits investigating any child abuse report once the alleged victim has reached the age of 23 years. Maintains law enforcement's duty to investigate reports.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 347*
Sec. 1-6—Allows the establishment of a state child fatality review team and allows counties or groups of contiguous counties to establish local child fatality response teams. Defines membership, duties and procedures for state and local teams. Gives local teams and coroner access to confidential child abuse and neglect investigation records.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 151*
Sec. 278—Requires the department to notify reporters of unsubstantiated reports of abuse and neglect.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 215*
Requires that the department notify the district attorney in writing of child abuse, neglect, or child death reports.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, Act 225*
Authorizes access to child abuse and neglect records by child fatality review teams. Specifies team membership.

MO *1996 Mo. Laws, SB 869*
Sec. 630.167—Allows law enforcement, health, and social services officials access to confidential mental health reports following investigations of abuse or neglect.

MS *1996 Miss. Laws, HB 404*
Sec. 2—Requires law enforcement to investigate all reports of abuse in out-of-home settings.

NE *1996 Neb. Laws, L.B. 842*
Requires the state patrol to provide an immediate response to inquiries from local law enforcement in rural areas on proper child abuse and neglect investigative procedures. Requires trained and knowledgeable investigators to handle inquiries.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 94*
Adds physician assistants to the list of mandatory reporters.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 200*
Sec. 12—Requires the Department of Human of Services to discontinue child abuse investigations in cases where the incident was reported as a result of reasonable exercise of parental discipline. Requires expungement of these records. Allows investigative visits to the home unless there appears to be an extreme safety risk to the child, or the worker, or where the report has been made in bad faith.

Sec. 13—Requires each district attorney's office to convene meetings of a coordinated child abuse and neglect multidisciplinary investigation team.

Sec. 18—Expands the list of people and agencies allowed access without a court order, to juvenile court and department of human services records.

Sec. 19—Allows public disclosure of certain information regarding the investigation of the death of a child. Sets conditions and confidentiality.

RI *1996 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 82*
Sec. 1—Adds social caseworker II to the list of people who may take a child into temporary protective custody, not to exceed 48 hours, if the worker believes the child has been abused, neglected, or will suffer imminent harm.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 450*
Sec. 20—Adds school officials, substance abuse treatment staff, foster care facilities' staff, and people responsible for processing film to the list of mandatory reporters. Limits mandatory reporting to information received in the person's professional capacity. Allows law enforcement reports of domestic violence to be investigated as suspected child abuse. Provides immunity to good faith reporters as well as to employees, volunteers and the department officials acting in good faith within their official duties. Requires a preliminary investigation with the child's extended family and that the caseworker, rather than law enforcement, make the decision regarding taking the child into custody.

Authorizes reporting physicians to perform medical tests and x-rays without parental consent. Authorizes a physician or hospital to refuse to release a child to parents for up to 24 hours while waiting for law enforcement.

Reduces the timeframe for abuse and neglect investigation from 60 to 45 days. Allows for destruction of unfounded records. Requires that parents get information about the procedures and their rights. Limits warrants to cases where necessary to complete the investigation. Allows warrant to provide for interview of child and access to medical, school and other records.

SD *1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 173*
Prohibits an apparent, alleged or adjudicated abused or neglected child from being detained with adult prisoners. Allows a child to be held in an adult lockup or jail only for identification and processing purposes.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 842*
Sec. 1—Encourages the reporting of statutory rape by doctors, physicians, surgeons, health care providers, or any other person examining or treating a pregnant mother. Defines statutory rape. Requires human services to report to law enforcement when a pregnant mother applies for any service and is determined to fall within the age requirements for statutory rape. Provides immunity for reporters.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 1*
Sec. 29—Authorizes the court to issue search warrants and subpoenas in criminal cases, delinquency, and neglect proceedings for the same purposes and by the same procedures as those in the criminal code.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 309*
Creates a center to provide a multidisciplinary response to child sexual abuse and serious physical abuse in an additional county. Grants an appropriation.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 318*
Sec. 19—Allows reports to be substantiated or unsubstantiated solely on the basis of a child's statements. Prohibits determining a report unsubstantiated due to the inability to identify or locate a perpetrator that does not live in the child's home. Prohibits closing an investigation due to the inability to locate the child until all reasonable efforts have been made.

Sec. 21—Requires police officers to investigate allegations of institutional abuse and neglect.

WA *1996 Wash. Laws, Chap. 278*
Mandates the Department of Corrections' staff to report abuse and neglect of children, adult dependents, and developmentally disabled people observed while supervising offenders in the community.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 84*
Establishes a state child fatality review team. Requires governmental agencies to cooperate with the state and local fatality review teams.

Sexual Abuse and Exploitation

AZ *1996 Ariz. Sess. Laws, Chap. 112*
Adds exploitative exhibition to the definition of commercial sexual exploitation of a minor and classifies exploitative exhibition as a Class 2 felony.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 284*
Requires specified county welfare department employees who have frequent contact with children to provide fingerprints and information regarding criminal history. Allows the county welfare director to obtain criminal records to determine if employees who have criminal records should have frequent contact with children. Prohibits contact in cases involving a sex offense against a minor.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 280*
Sec. 1—Expands definition of unlawful sexual behavior. Specifies court procedures.

Sec. 2, 5—Requires convicted sex offenders to submit to blood tests for genetic markers. Specifies procedures. Requires sex offenders to register.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, P.A. 228*
Authorizes the court to issue criminal restraining orders against people convicted of certain criminal or sexual assaults against children and other household members, and when in the best interest of the victim and the public.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, SB 156*
Sec. 69-72—Expands and clarifies the criminal definition of computer pornography-related child exploitation. Increases penalties. Restricts privileges of those convicted and incarcerated of the crime and specifies collection of attorney's fees. Permits investigation and prosecution of this offense. Prohibits the use of certain computer services to commit child sexual abuse and holds owners or operators liable. Sets penalties and allows prosecution of individuals who commit this offense while either within or outside the state against a child residing in the state.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 215*
Sec. 1-2—Makes it a third degree felony and an act of child abuse to impregnate a child under age 16 if the perpetrator is over 21. Requires a report to law enforcement. Exempts health care professionals or other medical providers and counselors from reporting if it would interfere with medical services.

FL	*1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 402* *Sec.* 21—Includes engaging in a sexual performance, exploitation of a child, solicitation for prostitution, sexual battery, or lewd acts in determining harm to a child.
GA	*1996 Ga. Laws, Act 622* Makes it a criminal offense to knowingly allow a person under age 21 into a performance with sexually explicit nudity by live performers.
GA	*1996 Ga. Laws, Act 876* *Sec.* 1—Requires a person age 21 or older who is convicted of statutory rape to be imprisoned for 10 to 20 years. Allows the perpetrator to be punished for a misdemeanor if the victim is 14 or 15 years old and the person convicted is no more than three years older than the victim.
IA	*1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1082* *Sec.* 3—Adds to the definition of sexually predatory offense against a child or adult.
IA	*1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1175* Requires multidisciplinary teams created to investigate child sexual abuse cases to be used to the greatest extent possible in prosecuting such cases.
IL	*1996 Ill. Laws, P.A. 89-488* Prohibits an incarcerated, noncustodial parent or other relative convicted of a sexual offense against a minor from visiting the child. Revokes visitation rights of a nonincarcerated relative who facilitates the child's visitation with an incarcerated relative. Denies visitation with a child to a person who has been discharged of a felony sexual offense or discharged from incarceration for a misdemeanor sex offense until after successful completion of a court-ordered treatment program.
IL	*1996 Ill. Laws, P.A. 89-543* Requires submission of a protocol on child sexual abuse investigation and prosecution procedures. Requires evaluation of the protocol.
IN	*1996 Ind. Acts, Act 1365* *Sec.* 8—Defines child molesting as a Class A felony for a person at least 21 years of age who performs sexual intercourse, or deviant sexual conduct with a child under 14 years of age. Defines child molesting, involving fondling or touching, as a Class B felony if a person at least 21 years of age performs with a person under 14 years of age.
KY	*1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 18* Expands membership of specialized teams responsible for investigating reported or suspected sexual abuse. Allows groups of contiguous counties to develop protocols for investigations. Specifies that investigations must be conducted within the guidelines established by the Kentucky Multidisciplinary Commission on Child Sexual Abuse.
MA	*1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 86* Requires the court in a criminal proceeding involving an alleged child sex crime to expedite the trial and give precedence to the case. Requires an impact statement to be filed if a motion of continuance is granted or requested.
ME	*1995 Me. Public Laws, Chap. 680* *Sec.* 2—Allows law enforcement officers to arrest without a warrant any person the officer believes to have committed assault or a violation of a sex offender registration provision. *Sec.* 13—Requires the department to establish and apply a risk assessment instrument to sex offenders for the purpose of law enforcement notification.
MD	*1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 443* Adds sadomasochistic abuse to laws defining child pornography. Makes it a crime to use a computer to encourage or solicit a minor to engage in unlawful sexual conduct or sadomasochistic abuse or to depict or describe a minor engaging in this specified conduct.
NC	*1995 N.C. Sess. Laws, Chap. 632* Makes solicitation of a child by a person 16 or older to commit a sex act a Class 1 felony.

NC	*1996 N.C. Sess. Laws, HB 53* Extends to nine months the period of post-release supervision of sex offenders and others convicted of physical, mental or sexual abuse of minors. Extends the supervision period to five years in cases where registration is required. Sets further conditions of supervision.
OK	*1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 200* *Sec. 7-8*—Allows the district attorney or child's attorney to object to and seek review of a court order allowing release of a child from state custody, based on the grounds that the child will be at risk of physical or sexual abuse. Outlines procedures of review. Allows representatives from the department to present sworn testimony regarding the child's release. *Sec. 11*—Prohibits a court from placing a child in the custody of a registered sex offender or a person convicted of any crime involving domestic abuse, or married to or living with such offenders. Requires the court to investigate previous or pending felony convictions or relevant misdemeanors before placing a child in custody of an individual.
PA	*1995 Pa. Laws, Act 621* *Sec. 4*—Prohibits a person convicted of luring a child into a motor vehicle from possessing a firearm.
RI	*1996 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 133* Treats individuals 17 or older who are charged with first degree child molestation as adults and removes them from the jurisdiction of family court.
SD	*1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 150* Defines criminal pedophilia. Sets penalties.
SD	*1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 154* Revises provisions relating to the suppression of names and details in rape, incest, and sexual contact prosecutions.
SD	*1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 155* Requires anyone convicted of child abuse, incest, sexual assault, or rape against a child to pay for the cost of child foster care.
TN	*1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 842* *Sec. 1*—Encourages the reporting of statutory rape by doctors, physicians, surgeons, health care providers, or any other person examining or treating a pregnant mother. Defines statutory rape. Requires the department to report to law enforcement, when a pregnant mother applies for any service and is determined to fall within the age requirements for statutory rape.
TN	*1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 972* Requires that sex offenders be sentenced to community supervision for life upon release from regular parole or imprisonment. Allows offenders to petition the court for a release from community supervision after 15 years.
UT	*1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 100* Removes the statutory 10-year cap for parole of first degree felony sex offenders and imposes lifetime parole unless granted earlier termination by the parole board.
UT	*1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 107* Adds to the definition of lewdness.
UT	*1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 137* *Sec. 1-6*—Allows prosecution for aggravated sexual abuse of a child within four years after reporting the offense. Denies mistaking a victim's age as a defense in the crime of aggravated sexual abuse of a child. Adds forcible sexual abuse and aggravated sexual abuse of a child to the definition of a criminal homicide. Adds forcible sodomy, attempted forcible sodomy, aggravated sexual abuse of a child, and attempted aggravated sexual abuse of a child, to the definition of sexual offenses without consent.
UT	*1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 309* Creates a center to provide a multidisciplinary response to child sexual abuse and serious physical abuse in an additional county.

VT *1996 Vt. Acts, Act 145*
Sec. 5—Expands the definition of risk of harm for the purpose of defining child abuse, to include neglect, emotional abuse, or sexual abuse.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 67*
Expands the types of pictures considered to be child pornography. Makes it a sex crime to possess an audiotape of a child engaged in sexual conduct, or to force a child to listen to sexually explicit conduct.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 69*
Increases the maximum prison term for certain sex crimes against children.

Sexual Offender Registries

AL *1996 Ala. Acts, Act 793*
Requires notification to law enforcement, former victims, and community residents of a sex offender's release date from incarceration. Applies a penalty of $500 for noncompliance with notification requirement. Prohibits offender from establishing a residence within proximity of a school or child care facility, or within 1,000 feet of a former victim.

Sec. 15-20-20 (c) (d)—Requires sex offenders to live at any stated address for a minimum of 30 days. Requires a notification of address change within 30 days after the 30-day minimum.

CA *1996 Cal. Stats., Chap. 235*
Prohibits exempting from disqualification a child care license because of a sexual offense conviction for which the offender must register with state and local police.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 280*
Sec. 5—Requires sex offender registration. Authorizes county jail personnel to require sex offenders to sign notice that they have been informed of their duty to register.

Establishes a mandatory 45-day minimum sentence for adjudicated juveniles who fail to register as sex offenders, and an out-of-home placement for at least one year for adjudicated juveniles guilty of a Class 6 felony offense for subsequent failure to register.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, Chap. 373 (1996)*
Requires the creation of a sex offender registry to include people convicted of sex offenses or attempted sex offenses. Requires public notification of a sex offender's release from incarceration or a mental facility. Establishes criteria for determining risk factors involved with notification procedures.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, Chap. 397 (1996)*
Requires registration of convicted sex offenders. Requires the Division of Motor Vehicles to provide notice of the obligation to register to new residents applying for a driver's license or identification card.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, SB 156*
Sec. 61(6-9), 63-65—Requires sexual predator registration. Makes it a felony to fail to register and work around children, including in a day care center.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 1035*
Requires those convicted of sexual offenses against minors to register with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. Authorizes the release of registration data for public protection.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1132*
Sec. 1—Includes sexually motivated stalking of a minor as a requirement for registering as a sex offender.

Sec. 4—Allows sex offenders who refuse to register to be held in-contempt and incarcerated.

Sec. 6—Requires coordination of the departments of human services and public safety to develop a single access system for individuals seeking information from the child abuse registry, the adult abuse registry, or the sex offender registry.

IA	*1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1134* *Sec.* 6—Requires a person who has been convicted of a criminal or sexual offense against a minor to register for 10 years beginning from the date of release from foster care or residential treatment.
KY	*1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 300* *Sec.* 1—Requires that information on sex offenders obtained by probation or parole officers be made available to sex offender treatment programs. *Sec.* 3—Requires sex offenders to pay for the costs of their evaluation and treatment.
MA	*1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 239* *Sec.* 1—Requires the development and maintenance of a sex offender registry. Requires the notification of an offender's duty to register and specifies penalties and fines. Allows the public to access information from the registry. Creates a sex offender registry board to establish guidelines and procedures for determining risk and notification factors for sex offenders.
ME	*1995 Me. Public Laws, Chap. 680* *Sec.* 6—Requires convicted sex offenders to abide by provisions in the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act as a condition of probation. Grants the court discretion to waive registration under certain circumstances.
MN	*1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 104* *Sec.* 1.3-1.8—Requires individuals convicted of a sexually violent offense to register with state law enforcement for a period of 10 years. Requires notification of an individual's duty to register, and requires the notified person to read and sign a form that their duty to register has been explained. Specifies address verification procedures.
MN	*1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 408* *Sec.* Art. 5—Expands the sex offender registration and community notification act to include people convicted of using a minor in a sexual performance or possessing pictorial representations of minors engaged in sexual conduct.
MT	*1995 Mont. Laws, HB 380* *Sec.* 8 (d)—Requires sex offender registration for juveniles.
NC	*1996 N.C. Sess. Laws, HB 53* Extends to nine months the period of post-release supervision of sex offenders and others convicted of physical, mental, or sexual abuse of minors. Extends the supervision period to five years in cases where registration is required.
NE	*1996 Neb. Laws, L.B. 645* Requires convicted sex offenders to register with local law enforcement agencies. Establishes a central registry to be accessed solely by law enforcement agencies.
NY	*1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 192* Creates a sex offender registry. Requires the appropriate law enforcement agencies to be notified of the pending release of an offender. Requires the offender to register before making address changes as well as annually. Requires violent predatory offenders to register quarterly. Requires information to be made available to the public, upon written request, about offenders at high risk of recidivism who may pose a threat to public safety.
RI	*1996 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 104* *Sec.* 1, 2, 1.6—Defines sexually violent offense and sexually violent predator. *Sec.* 1.12—Establishes risk factor criteria to determine the level of public notification for the release of sex offenders and the procedures for determining the risk factor.
SC	*1996 S.C. Acts, Act 444* *Sec.* 16—Revises provisions for the sex offender registry to clarify registration procedures and penalties for failure to register or knowingly giving false information in registering. Provides for public access to information in the registry.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 450*

Sec. 20—Limits access to central registry. Requires that the department be given access to law enforcement records and county sex abuse registers to do background checks.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 834*

Adds offenders on probation, pretrial and judicial diversion to those covered by the Sexual Offender Registration Act. Requires the attorney general within each judicial district to report quarterly on sexual offenders' status, including act violators, to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. Requires the district attorney general to notify local law enforcement when offenders are in violation and to ensure their capture.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 221*

Sec. 1-2—Adds to the definition of sex offender. Requires the Department of Corrections to disseminate information on sex offenders. Expands the scope of information to be maintained by the department about a sex offender. Allows the State Office of Education and petitioners access to sex offender information. Requires the department to establish rules for disseminating information, and approving or denying a petition for information. Appropriates $15,000 for the expansion of the sex offender registry.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 224*

Sec. 2—Requires the Department of Corrections to provide treatment for sex offenders and to provide results of ongoing assessments and diagnostic testing to sentencing and release authorities. Requires this information to be shared with the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice.

Sec. 3—Requires mental health providers to be licensed as mental health professionals to treat sex offenders.

Sec. 4—Appropriates $410,000 to the Department of Corrections for sex offender treatment.

VT *1996 Vt. Acts, Act 124*

Sec. 5104—Defines sex offender, sexually violent predator, and sexually violent offense. Sets guidelines and procedures.

Sec. 5402—Requires the establishment of a sex offender registry. Requires records to be updated every three months. Allows victims to access information.

Sec. 5413—Requires records contained in the registry to be expunged if a conviction is reversed and dismissed. Requires notification to any agencies who were provided information prior to reversal of conviction.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 107*

Creates a central registry of sex offenders. Requires the state police to be notified of the release of such offenders.

CHILD CARE/EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Administration

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 220*
Creates an oversight committee to monitor grants from the child care improvement fund derived from voluntary tax checkoff contributions.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 175*
Sec. 73—Requires the state to work with the local interagency coordinating council to develop collaborative agreements with each local school district on conducting a child care program.

Sec. 85—Establishes a state executive partnership to encourage local, employer, and foundation support for child care for working families. Sets partnership membership and responsibilities. Requires community child care agencies to administer the purchasing pools with the Legislature, annually setting state and federal contributions.

Sec. 86—Authorizes a family-friendly workplace initiative in the governor's office, with business community consultation, to recognize family-friendly employers through awards and by publicity. Lists criteria for eligible employers.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 601*
Sec. 2—Creates the Office of School Readiness to administer prekindergarten, child care and development programs, child care regulations, child food programs, and accompanying federal funding. Transfers authority over these programs from the Departments of Human Resources and Education. Requires the office to assist local governments with these programs.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 82*
Transfers staffing authority for the board on coordination of child care regulation to the legislative services agency from the division of family and children.

MA *1995 Mass. Acts, Chap. 262*
Adds a representative of the Massachusetts Federation of Teachers to the Commission on Early Childhood Education.

NC *1996 N.C. Sess. Laws, HB 53*
Sec. 24.29—Requires the North Carolina Partnership for Children to implement a standard fiscal accountability plan for all local Smart Start partnerships. Specifies components. Requires all partnerships to participate in the plan, have a centralized accountability for certain partnerships, and use a direct services allocation formula. Requires a performance rating system and allows funding allocations based on the results. Requires local partnership advisory committees and a needs/resources assessment every three years.

OH *1995 Ohio Laws, HB 62*
Requires a study for a pilot project on more lenient family child care home licensing, and a review of licensing options for school-age child care.

OH *1995 Ohio Laws, HB 117*
Sec. 45.02—Requires an advisory committee to develop a plan to use Head Start management assistance funds. Sets membership and requires a report to the Legislature and the governor on Head Start issues.

Sec. 60.07—Requires the creation of a working group to advise the state about subsidized child care enrollment and eligibility.

Background Checks and Screening

AZ *1996 Ariz. Sess. Laws, Chap. 298*
Allows registration revocation and prohibits employment for child care personnel who are convicted of or awaiting trial for certain drug, robbery, burglary, and assault offenses. Authorizes exceptions for child care applicants who can demonstrate successful rehabilitation and nonrecidivism. Exempts minors from fingerprint checks.

AZ *1996 Ariz. Sess. Laws, Chap. 325*
Prohibits licensure or certification of a child care center or group home during any pending enforcement or court action related to the center's licensee. Allows court or enforcement action against a licensee or certificate holder during a sale or transfer. Requires a full transfer of control before approval of center or home ownership changes.

CA *1996 Cal. Stats., Chap. 235*
Prohibits exempting from disqualification a child care license due to a sexual offense conviction for which the offender must register with state and local police.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 63*
Sec. 9-10—Identifies the crimes requiring the state to deny or revoke a child care or foster care license. Adds conviction of certain drug crimes as cause for legal action against a license. Authorizes legal action for failure to comply with minimum safety and sanitation standards.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, Act 262*
Sec. 10—Prohibits child care subsidies to unlicensed child care providers who have been convicted of specified crimes against minors. Allows the state to order criminal history checks on those suspected of such convictions. Outlines criminal history check procedures.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, SB 156*
Sec. 61(7-9)—Requires sexual predator registration. Makes it a felony to fail to register and work around children, including in a day care center.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 19*
Requires updates of criminal history records checks for child care providers, volunteers, and potential adoptive parents. Requires periodic verification of continuing licensure or regulatory approval, including local child placement agencies. Requires more specific dispositions in criminal history check reports.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 430*
Authorizes access to certain child abuse and neglect records to child care licensing personnel and directors of child care facilities.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 440*
Sec. 49, Art. 1—Requires the state to administer and maintain a computerized juvenile history record system. Allows access by criminal justice agencies and trial and appellate courts. Authorizes dissemination of records for a background check under certain circumstances, if the background check is required by law.

MS *1996 Miss. Laws, HB 403*
Requires child care providers to check felony conviction records and fingerprints of employees and applicants and maintain records. Expands the list of convictions that prohibit providing child care or volunteer services to include cases where a court declared their child in need of services based on abuse, neglect or specific instances of parental rights termination.

OH *1995 Ohio Laws, SB 2*
Sec. 5104.012—Adds several drug offenses to the list of convictions that would prevent a person from being hired at a child care center or home, a preschool program, or a Head Start agency, or to prevent the issuance of a child care license under certain circumstances.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 200*
Sec. 1—Specifies that criminal history investigations be conducted for applicants for employment in any child care facility that is licensed or approved by a child-placing agency and located in a private residence. Outlines exemptions. Prohibits registered sex offenders from residing in a child care facility.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 444*
Requires fingerprint checks for those age 15 or older who live in family day care homes. Exempts employees who have no interactions with children. Exempts volunteers if they are supervised by an employee and prohibits licensure in cases of residents convicted of certain crimes. Establishes penalties.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 289*
Sec. 71m, 75—Establishes procedures for background investigations for child care center and home providers and adult residents of family day care homes. Requires photographs and fingerprints in certain cases. Prohibits certification or licensure, employment and residence in a family day care home unless the background investigation is satisfactory. Specifies offenses for that a conviction would prevent licensure, certification, employment, or residence. Allows a review of a denial.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 1*
Requires the establishment of a child abuse registry. Requires authorized residential care facilities, day care centers and home care service providers to notify employees about the registry and grants immunities for providers disclosing information for employment purposes, with exceptions.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 80*
Allows for background checks on family day care homes and facilities as part of the certification approval.

Financing/Publicly Funded Programs/Service Expansion

AK *1996 Alaska Sess. Laws, Chap. 107*
Prohibits the state from requiring work activities for cash assistance eligibility if child care is unavailable to a single custodial parent of a child under age 6.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 298*
Extends the public-private partnership that funds child care resource and referral agencies to recruit and train new family child care providers.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 776*
Authorizes the University of California, with Regent approval and funded from nongeneral resources, to conduct a pilot project allowing selected centers and family day care homes to administer certain medical or tube feeding procedures under certain circumstances.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 84*
Requires that at least 20 percent of the appropriation for youth crime prevention be designated for children under age 9 and that one or more members of the crime prevention board be knowledgeable about early childhood care and education.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 219*
Establishes a progressive, income-based state tax credit for child care expenses.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 220*
Establishes a voluntary income tax checkoff on state tax returns for grants to improve child care program quality in the state. Authorizes the nonprofit Colorado Children's Campaign to distribute funds, establish criteria and limit grant awards and administrative costs. Specifies training for child care personnel as an allowable purpose of a grant. Creates an oversight committee and specifies responsibilities. Appropriates $27,567 for the implementation of the act.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, Act 262*
Sec. 1, 7—Creates a new child care tax credit at 60 percent of expenses. Simplifies reporting requirements. Allows the state's 40 percent business child care tax credit to apply to child care facilities on or off site. Requires several state agencies to work with business-related organizations on marketing strategies to promote the tax credits.

Sec. 2—Encourages welfare recipients to use opportunity vouchers for job placement in child care centers, homes, and preschools.

Sec. 3, 6—Allows nonstate employees access to facilities primarily established for state employees. Prioritizes families who are at or below 75 percent of state median income for available slots.

Sec. 4—Authorizes using child care subsidies for school-based before and after-school child care and to encourage association with Head Start programs.

Sec. 5—Clarifies that the child care loan program applies to licensed child care centers, family day care homes, or group day care homes.

Sec. 7—Authorizes a 40 percent tax credit for costs of businesses providing employee parent education classes, available once the child care tax credit has been exhausted. Requires the application to specify costs and the number of participants. Requires classes to provide certain child development information and referrals.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, H.R. 52 (1996)*
Encourages the state to coordinate child care and early childhood education to enhance school readiness.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 175*
Sec. 56, 80—Exempts licensed family day care homes from a utility tax and sets residential rates for them. Authorizes counties to set residential rates for all homes.

Sec. 58—Requires an assessment of preschool children eligible for subsidized child care to identify those needing extended day, extended year prekindergarten services. Requires a report to the legislature.

Sec. 71—Adds employer-sponsored services to the resource file that resource and referral agencies are required to develop. Requires tracking of state welfare reform and transportation services. Requires resource and referrals to help businesses improve their child care services.

Sec. 73—Establishes priorities for subsidized child care funds, including children in need of protective services, at-risk of welfare dependency, children with migrant or teen parents, children of families under the poverty line, and children of working families under 150 percent of the poverty line. Extends TCC to 24 months. Requires all families to contribute to the costs, unless prohibited by federal law. Requires direct voucher payments to providers, with penalties for misuse.

Requires community child care coordinating agencies to help welfare reform participants and former participants eligible for subsidized care to develop cooperative arrangements to assist each other's child care needs. Requires the state to contract for support services for families participating in subsidized child care, including transportation, child development programs, child nutrition, parent training, and family counseling activities. Limits the requirement to available funding.

Sec. 78—Establishes a two-tiered child care payment system that reimburses unregulated providers at 50 percent of the market rate and regulated providers at the market rate.

Sec. 85—Establishes a state child care executive partnership to encourage local, employer, and foundation support for child care for working families. Requires the funding pool to provide subsidies to low-income working parents with a dollar-for-dollar match from employers and local government. Prohibits supplanting existing employer efforts. Sets membership responsibilities and target areas. Requires community child care agencies to administer funds, with the Legislature annually setting state and federal funding contributions.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1213*
Sec. 6—Appropriates $12.5 million for state child care assistance, including TCC and other federal funds. Limits services to the amount of available funds. Specifies priority populations for waiting lists. Appropriates funds for resource and referral services, including assisting the state with family day care home inspections and reviews. Requires state review of child care payment issues, including disproportionate reimbursement for providers with at least 75 percent subsidized children and enhanced reimbursement for registered family day care homes.

MD *1995 Md. Laws, Chap. 492*
Creates an employer tax credit for employers who hire AFDC recipients. Tax credit ranges from 10 percent to 30 percent of wages and from $400 to $600 in child care.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 109*
Exempts certain family day care providers operating from their own home from local personal property taxes.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 351*
Sec. 2—Requires that the Family Investment Program provide child care and other support services to the extent resources permit. Requires that the program include child care vouchers for an applicant who is required to participate in a work or job search activity to the extent that resources permit, or if child care will eliminate the need for cash assistance.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 151*
Sec. 523—Allows the state to pay child care for recipients in education, training, or community service activities in the welfare program.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 465*
Sec. 1—Increases by $5 million the appropriation for the sliding fee child care program.

Sec. 7—Requires any unencumbered funds from ACCESS, the state nonJOBS welfare reform program, to be transferred to the sliding fee fund to extend transitional child care.

NC *1996 N.C. Sess. Laws, HB 53*
Sec. 24.29—Requires the North Carolina Partnership for Children to implement a standard fiscal accountability plan for all local Smart Start partnerships. Specifies components. Requires all partnerships to participate in the plan, have a centralized accountability for certain partnerships, and use a direct services allocation formula. Requires a performance rating system and allows funding allocations based on the results. Requires local partnership advisory committees and a needs/resources assessment every three years.

NH *1995 N.H. Laws, Chap. 310*
Requires the state to reimburse participants in required public assistance work activities for appropriate and safe child care, and other support services. Allows a deferral from participation if there is a lack of such care.

OH *1995 Ohio Laws, HB 117*
Sec. 60.07—Authorizes a sliding fee schedule for nonADC child care. Authorizes the state to set eligibility standards for nonADC child care or delegate that authority to counties. Allows the counties to determine whether new families can be enrolled or if families need to be disenrolled, if the state delegates the authority. Sets a maximum state eligibility standard for nonADC child care of 150 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) for newly enrolled families if the state retains authority.

Repeals the nonADC child care eligibility standard of 185 percent of the FPL or 75 percent of the state median income. Requires a working group to advise the state about subsidized child care enrollment and eligibility.

RI *1996 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 129*
Sec. 10—Exempts parents from state work requirements if the state determines that appropriate child care is unavailable for fiscal or other reasons and the parent needs child care to work.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, P.A. 950*
Sec. 5—Requires the state to provide child care to public assistance recipients participating in work activities. Extends transitional child care for 18 months.

VT *1996 Vt. Acts, Act 178*
Sec. 146—Prohibits the state from capping the number of child care subsidized slots without prior review of program use during the FY 1997 budget adjustment process. Restricts the cap to limits established in 1991.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 289*
Sec. 51, 58, 74—Creates two levels of certified family day care providers. Prohibits the state from requiring training standards for Level II providers and provides reimbursement at 50 percent of the maximum market rate. Reimburses to Level I providers at 75 percent of the maximum market rate.

Sec. 55m, 56, 57—Lowers the eligibility standard for subsidized child care to 165 percent of the federal poverty level. Makes teenage cash assistance recipients eligible for child care if needed for an educational program. Authorizes a child care copayment system for all families. Changes the market rate determination formula by counting only licensed providers.

Preschool Services

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, Act 262*
Sec. 4—Authorizes the use of child care subsidies for school-based before- and after-school child care and to encourage association and cooperation with Head Start programs.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, H.R. 52 (1996)*
Encourages the state to accelerate the coordination and extension of child care and early childhood education to enhance school readiness.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 175*
Sec. 57—Specifies that at least 75 percent of the state prekindergarten program be for disadvantaged 4-year-olds with parents who work or who are in the state welfare program. Requires a school district to enter into a collaborative agreement with publicly funded early childhood programs to ensure standard compliance and to maximize resources. Requires a single point of entry for all publicly supported early childhood programs.

Requires using local child care waiting lists to calculate the allocation of state prekindergarten funds to school districts. Requires minimum performance standards and outcome measurements for publicly funded early childhood programs and requires them to be consistent with the state's school readiness goals.

Sec. 58—Requires an assessment of preschool children eligible for subsidized child care to identify those needing extended day, extended year prekindergarten services. Requires a report to the Legislature.

MO *1996 Mo. Laws, HB 1301 and 1298*
Sec. 304.076—Requires that buses transporting children to a Head Start programs bear signs indicating that it is a Head Start bus.

OH *1995 Ohio Laws, HB 117*
Sec. 45.02—Appropriates $3 million in FY 1996 and $3 million in FY 1997 for Head Start-eligible families in work or training for full-day, full-year services. Appropriates $1 million in FY 1996 For Head Start start-up and expansion. Appropriates $3 million in FY 1996 to leverage private sector funds to expand Head Start facilities. Appropriates $150,000 for Head Start research. Appropriates certain remaining amounts to fund expansion grants. Imposes grant requirements and establishes guidelines for monitoring Head Start agencies, including cooperation with preschool.

Sec. 45.03—Appropriates $16.1 million for FY 1996 and $17 million for FY 1997 to award grants to school districts and educational service centers for 3 and 4 year old preschool programs. Limits administrative and management assistance costs at 1 percent each and defines those activities. Sets eligibility at 185 percent of the federal poverty level. Establishes funding priorities. Requires county preschool plans and requires them to contain certain information. Sets aside preschool funds for the Cincinnati Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters.

Sec. 56.01—Creates the Ohio Early Start Program for FY 1996 and 1997 for counties to provide services to children under age 3 at significant developmental risk. Transfers some child welfare funds to support the program. Authorizes the Division of Maternal and Child Health to select the counties for funding, and establishes a distribution formula.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 954*
Allows the state to develop a competitive grants and technical assistance system for pilot community-based early childhood education and prekindergarten programs. Requires the programs to address the educational, health and social services needs of 3- and 4-year-olds who are ineligible for, or cannot access, similar programs and who live below the federal poverty level or are at-risk of educational failure, abuse, neglect, disability or state custody. Allows a sliding fee scale.

Requires a collaboration of several relevant departments to develop the programs. Directs the collaborating agencies to gather recommendations from early childhood experts, families, and interested community individuals. Encourages programs to include full-day, year-round services and child care for children of parents who need extended day services.

Regulation and Licensing

AZ *1996 Ariz. Sess. Laws, Chap. 325*
Prohibits licensure or certification of a child care center or group home during any pending enforcement or court action related to the center's licensee. Allows a court or enforcement action against a licensee or certificate holder during a sale or transfer. Requires a full transfer of control before approval of center or home ownership changes.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 473*
Exempts child care centers from the requirement to verify immunizations or tuberculosis testing if they lack a contract for regular care or a prearranged schedule of care. Requires the parent to sign an acknowledgment of the exemption.

CA *1996 Cal. Stats., Chap. 18*
Increases the number of children who can be cared for in both large and small family day care homes. Allows small family day care homes to care for six or fewer infants. Provides that family day care home standards not apply to residential congregate care facilities.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 63*
Sec. 2-5—Focuses licensing activities on child care facilities that have demonstrated a higher risk for children in their care. Expands the definition of a child care center to include facilities providing care for children under age 18, school-age child care centers, preschools, and before- and after-school programs. Redefines a family child care home and requires a study on allowing more children in an unlicensed home. Allows the issuance of a provisional six-month license only once.

Sec. 6—Requires the state to develop licensing fees considering licensed capacity instead of facility size and ability to pay. Requires a systematic approach to fees that includes tracking inspection costs, reassessing costs and fees annually, and reporting the results.

Sec. 8, 11-12—Requires child care facilities to post their licenses. Requires a comprehensive regulation review of centers and family homes every fifth year, instead of every third year. Allows counties to impose higher standards. Transfers authority over licensing penalties to the DHS's executive director from an administrative law judge.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, Act 262*
Sec. 8—Authorizes the establishment of a limited amnesty program for unlicensed family day care or group day care homes to voluntarily apply for licensure. Exempts them from penalties if they develop a compliance plan. Requires community and media outreach to publicize the amnesty program.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 175*
Sec. 72—Provides that subsidized child care providers accredited by a nationally recognized association whose standards meet or exceed certain national standards receive a state Gold Seal Quality Care designation.

Sec. 75—Changes the number of children and clarifies age groups for the definition of a family day care home.

Sec. 76—Requires licensed child care operators to take basic training in serving children with disabilities.

Sec. 81—Requires state child care licensing revenues to be allocated for licensing activities, including the Gold Seal Quality Care program.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 919*
Requires state-funded, voluntary prekindergarten programs to provide private or gender-specific toilet facilities.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 303*
Sec. 2-5—Requires family child care homes to be zoned residential and permitted in all residential zones. Provides exceptions. Defines a "family child care home" as a private home caring for six or fewer children. Requires a report to the Legislature on liability, accessibility, and constitutional issues.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 1374*

Allows Class I child care home licensees to care for three additional school-age children at a time during the school year. Requires that Class II child care home licensees reside in the home and have at least one year of child care experience.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1213*

Sec. 6—Appropriates funds for resource and referral services, including assisting the state with family day care home inspections and reviews.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 81*

Exempts youth development agencies from child care licensure if they are tax-exempt, provide services year-round outside school hours for youth age 6 or older, and have no fee or scheduled care arrangements with the parent or guardian.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 285*

Increases the types of relatives who can provide foster care without a license to a minor child.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 256*

Creates a category of large family day care homes to care for up to 10 children with two providers. Requires training and prior experience for providers. Requires an unannounced inspection of such homes within six months of licensure and annually thereafter.

OH *1995 Ohio Laws, HB 62*

Establishes a pilot family home category in seven counties that allows a provider to care for up to 9 children at once and is exempt from certain stricter requirements. Requires a study for a pilot project on more lenient family child care home licensing, and a review of licensing options for school-age child care.

OH *1995 Ohio Laws, HB 117*

Eliminates the 30-day deadline for inspecting and certifying certain family day care homes applying for public child care funds.

Sec. 5104.015—Authorizes the state to implement its prohibition of smoking in child care centers.

SD *1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 171*

Specifies the state's child care rulemaking authority over training, health and safety standards and records, the number of providers, and payment policies.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 879*

Increases from six to nine hours per week that a child care facility operating in connection with a church, business, or recreational facility can remain exempt from licensing requirements when the parent is not in an employment-related activity.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 80*

Creates and defines the family day care home and facility categories, and requires a two-year certification for them, with exceptions. Allows for provisional certification. Sets a misdemeanor penalty for noncompliance. Provides for certification application procedures and allows for background checks as part of certification approval. Requires regular inspections, evaluations, reviews and listings of family day care facilities.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 289*

Sec. 51, 58, 74—Creates two levels of certified family day care providers. Prohibits the state from requiring training standards for Level II providers and reimburses them at 50 percent of the maximum market rate. Reimburses Level I providers at 75 percent of the maximum market rate.

School-Age Child Care/Child Care in Public Schools

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, Act 262*

Sec. 4—Authorizes the use of child care subsidies for providing school-based before- and after-school child care and to encourage association and cooperation with Head Start programs.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 175*
Sec. 73—Requires the state to work with the local interagency coordinating council to develop collaborative agreements with each local school district on conducting a child care program.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 1374*
Allows Class I child care home licensees to care for three additional school-age children at a time during the school year.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 81*
Exempts youth development agencies from child care licensure if they are tax-exempt, serve throughout the year outside school hours for youth who age 6 or older, and for which there are no fee or scheduled care arrangements with the parent or guardian.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 323*
Expands the Massachusetts Family Network parent outreach programs for families of children ages 1 to 3 to include families with school-age children.

OH *1995 Ohio Laws, HB 62*
Requires a study for a pilot project on more lenient family child care home licensing, and a review of licensing options for school-age child care.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 458*
Sec. 72—Authorizes school districts to allow for-profit organizations to use classrooms or other space for school-age child care programs.

SD *1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 170*
Allows regulated child care providers to care for additional school-age children.

Support for Providers/Training/Resource and Referral

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 298*
Extends the California Child Care Initiative Project, a public-private partnership that funds child care resource and referral agencies to recruit and train new family child care providers.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 220*
Specifies training for child care personnel as an allowable purpose of a child care improvement grant.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 221*
Authorizes 10 grants to community-based agencies to provide training and education to welfare recipients to become child care workers. Caps each grant at $25,000.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, Act 262*
Sec. 2—Encourages welfare recipients to use their opportunity certificate vouchers for job placement in child care centers, homes and preschools.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 175*
Sec. 71—Adds employer-sponsored child care services to files that resource and referral agencies are required to develop. Requires tracking state welfare reform and transportation services. Requires resource and referrals to help businesses improve their child care services.

Sec. 73—Requires community child care coordinating agencies to help welfare participants and former participants eligible for subsidized child care develop cooperative arrangements to assist each other's child care needs. Requires state liability insurance coverage for all subsidized child care programs.

Sec. 74, 76—Requires licensed child care operators to take basic training in serving children with disabilities. Requires the state, upon request, to provide technical assistance to parents and child care providers about serving such children.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 303*
Requires family child care homes to be zoned residential and permitted in all residential zones. Provides exceptions. Defines a family child care home as a private home caring for six or fewer children. Requires a report to the Legislature on liability, disabilities, and constitutional issues.

IL	*1996 Ill. Laws, P.A. 89-648* Requires child care center licensees and employees who are mandated reporters to attend training on recognizing child abuse and neglect.
IA	*1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1213* *Sec.* 6—Appropriates funds for resource and referral services, including assisting the state with family day care home inspections and reviews.
MA	*1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 256* Specifies training and experience requirements for new large family day care homes.
RI	*1996 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 129* *Sec.* 18—Directs the state to provide subsidized health care coverage for certified family day care providers who provided state-funded services of at least $1,800 during six consecutive months. Extends the health care coverage to the providers' children.
SD	*1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 171* Specifies the state's child care rulemaking authority, over training, and other issues.
WI	*1995 Wis. Laws, Act 289* *Sec.* 51, 74—Prohibits the state from requiring training standards for certain new child care providers.

CHILD MENTAL HEALTH

Administration/Financing/Policy

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 712*
Clarifies state and local responsibility for determining financial liability or collecting payment for certain types of children's mental health services.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 230*
Sec. 6 (19-1-311)—Creates an information management committee to develop a legislative proposal to implement plans for a cross-agency, centralized, integrated data base system to track children receiving state services.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 241*
Sec. 1—Requires that people who sign child custody evaluation reports be licensed mental health professionals.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, Act 202*
Sec. 6(d)—Authorizes probate courts to order medical or mental health examinations of parents and children when considering applications to remove parents as guardians.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 125*
Sec. 1—Places responsibility with the department of health for carrying out any settlement regarding a pending legal action on delivery of children's mental health services.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 287*
Sec. 4 (35)—Requires the departments of education, human services, and health to develop interagency agreements for services to children in special education and through school-based health centers. Outlines provisions to be included in the agreements.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 197*
Mandates a study of the state health and human service delivery systems including recommendations for improvements in efficiency, consolidation of funding streams, reinvesting in community-based services, service delivery programs that maximize the individual's independence and dignity, and single entry points for services.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 303*
Changes procedures related to members of the state and regional interagency councils for services to children with emotional disabilities.

ME *1995 Me. Public Laws, Chap. 662*
Prohibits a member of the regional site board that governs the Child Development Services System for children with disabilities from deriving revenue for work performed for the system. Authorizes the board to employ a staff professional therapist under certain circumstances and determine the associated costs. Establishes a provider advisory board. Requires a review of mandated services. Requires the Interdepartmental Coordinating Council for Early Intervention to advise the Joint Education and Cultural Affairs Committee in the Legislature.

ME *1995 Me. Public Laws, Chap. 691*
Establishes local quality improvement councils to plan, oversee, and evaluate the delivery of publicly funded mental health services for children and adults. Establishes separate councils to perform these functions for state mental health institutes. Requires the development of provider networks to offer 24-hour crisis mental health services through a single entry point system. Repeals funding for the establishment of local mental health authority districts.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 151*
Sec. 541—Establishes three regional pilot projects to develop networks of support for families with children of school-age or younger with developmental disabilities or chronic illness.

Sec. 566—Requires state regulations defining and providing for differing levels of foster family care to enable children with special medical, psychological and social needs to be placed in foster family care instead of more structured group care settings.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 1079*
Sec. 3, 183—Creates the Department of Children's Services to integrate child welfare, juvenile justice, and certain functions from health, education, and mental health agencies to improve services to children in or at-risk of state custody. Creates a joint legislative committee to oversee implementation. Extends the duration of the Joint Select Committee on Children and Youth.

WA *1996 Wash. Laws, Chap. 131*
Sec. 1—Creates a legislative children's oversight committee and an office of the family and children's ombudsman to monitor policies and programs, especially for children in state care.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 64*
Sec. 1-6—Allows information sharing between the county Department of Social Services, developmental disabilities services units, or service contractors without the informed consent of the client.

Treatment

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 832*
Expands the intensive foster care pilot program to be applicable in any participating county, revises eligibility requirements, payment procedures and funding. Requires each foster family agency to have a contract or memorandum of understanding with the county. Outlines the services and activities to be provided. Allows children to be enrolled after June 30, 1996. Repeals sunset date. Requires each foster family care program to have a contract or memorandum of understanding with the county. Outlines services and activities.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 398*
Sec. 10 (2)(e)—Requires the Department of Juvenile Justice to establish standards to ensure quality of mental health services provided to children with mental, nervous, or emotional disorders who may be committed to intensive residential treatment programs.

MO *1996 Mo. Laws, SB 869*
Sec. 630.167—Allows law enforcement, health and social services officials to access confidential mental health reports following investigations of abuse or neglect.

MS *1996 Miss. Laws, HB 87*
Creates a cross-agency pooled-funding program to provide services for children with serious emotional/behavioral disturbances or mental illnesses requiring multiple services.

MS *1996 Miss. Laws, HB 1421*
Requires the regional mental health and retardation commissions to enter into managed care contracts and arrangements and authorizes certain financial arrangements. Requires state approval of children's mental health services and minimum standards.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 224*
Sec. 2—Requires the Department of Corrections to provide treatment for sex offenders and to provide results of ongoing assessments and diagnostic testing to sentencing and release authorities. Requires this information to be shared with the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice.

Sec. 3—Requires providers to be licensed as mental health professionals to treat sex offenders.

Sec. 4—Appropriates $410,000 to the Department of Corrections for sex offender treatment.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 234*
Requires the establishment of a formula to allocate state hospital pediatric beds to each local mental health authority. Codifies due process requirements for the commitment of children to residential inpatient mental health services. Allows invasive treatment of children, such as electroshock. Limits commitment to 180 days and requires a hearing to extend commitment.

Requires the child's parents to pay for a child in commitment, based on ability to pay. Provides for committing a child to a less or more restrictive placement. Requires the state to hire a parent advocate to assist the parents of mentally ill children. Specifies the civil rights of children in commitment, including the right to visit with legal or religious counsel.

VA *1995 Va. Acts, Chap. 490*
Allows a court appointed special advocate to meet with a mental health provider to review and interpret a child's treatment records.

VT *1996 Vt. Acts, Act 137*
Requires the state to report children with severe emotional disturbances who are not receiving services. Specifies that services are not only for those in legal custody or protective services.

WA *1996 Wash. Laws, Chap. 133*
Sec. 7—Requires crisis center personnel to provide transportation to a certified mental health or chemical dependency program of the parents' choice.

Sec. 9—Requires crisis center personnel to inform parents of the right to request a mental health or chemical evaluation and to receive treatment to address the child's at-risk behavior.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 77*
Sec. 938.505— Allows providers to petition the court to administer psychotropic medication to youth adjudicated as delinquent and under state or county supervision.

CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

Administration/Fees/Financing

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 130*
Requires the department to consult with counties regarding privatizing the delivery of certain child support enforcement services.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 800*
Permits confinement of in-contempt obligors to diversion programs during off-work hours.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1213*
Sec. 8—Appropriates $6,517,000 for child support recovery efforts.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 351*
Sec. 53—Creates demonstration projects to provide incentives for increased employment and child support collections for cash assistance recipients.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 151*
Requires an audit of the Unidentified Child Support Payment Fund to provide recommendations on its use for increasing and improving collections.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, Act 120*
Requires a surcharge for past due support, but prohibits interest accrual on late payments.

Defines recipient of support as the custodial parent or guardian with a support order.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 391*
Sec. 1—Authorizes the court to suspend accrual of interest on child support arrearages if complete and timely payments of current and back support are made by obligor over 36 consecutive months.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 270*
Allows consumer reporting agencies to request information on the past-due status of an obligor's payment. Requires the state to provide complete information regarding the obligor, including the type and the amount of the support order. Requires a reasonable fee in responding to the request. Prohibits releasing information to other entities that the department does not believe are consumer reporting agencies.

RI *1995 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 374*
Creates the Full Enforcement of Support Obligations Act. Clarifies definitions used in support orders under the act.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 110*
Defines the child support enforcement division as the child advocate office. Defines the terms "adjusted gross income" and "attributed income" for the purpose of determining support amounts. Lowers the amount of a felonious arrearage from $10,000 to $8,000.

Court Procedures

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, Chap. 448 (1996)*
Establishes criminal nonsupport and aggravated criminal nonsupport as a misdemeanor offense.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, Chap. 449 (1996)*
Makes proceeds from the obligor's bond forfeiture for failing to appear in court payable toward the support obligation.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 740*
Changes procedures for periodic review and adjustment of support orders.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 800*
Permits confinement of in-contempt obligors to diversion programs during off-work hours.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 78*
Requires the court to immediately schedule preliminary hearings for temporary custody, visitation or child support. Requires that the court make its determination no later than 21 days from the filing date. Allows the parties to file for modification of a preliminary order. Requires the court to order visitation enforcement, and to assign remedies when the visitation rights have been unjustifiably violated.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 1256*
Increases the penalty amount from $10 to $70 for nonpayment of support. Requires the court to transfer the claim to the plenary docket and remove it from small claims status. Makes it a felony to owe $10,000 in past due support, and allows the court to sentence accordingly. Requires the court to enter detailed reasons for its Class D judgments.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 365*
Allows a minor, guardian or other legal representative to maintain a proceeding on behalf of or for the minor child.

MI *1995 Mich. Pub. Acts, Act 241*
Consolidates and revises laws relating to the friend of the court in support actions. Requires enforcement of health coverage orders. Allows changing the obligor with contempt for failing to respond within 14 days of notice.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, Act 5*
Grants jurisdiction to circuit courts for determining and enforcing child support orders, including health coverage, and requires that the payments be made to the friend of the court.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, Act 9*
Allows the court to temporarily rule on children's custody and visitation, health care and support issues during pending divorce actions.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, Act 19*
Changes the term "visitation" to "parenting or grandparenting time." Establishes inherent rights of minors during disputed actions over their custody or support. Requires ex parte interim orders to include written notice on objecting to or modifying the order.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, Act 120*
Defines terms relating to enforcement orders. Determines the friend of the court's powers and duties regarding support orders.

MO *1996 Mo. Laws, SB 719*
Requires circuit clerks in all counties, except those in cities not within any county, to cooperate with the prosecuting attorney and the department in investigations of possible criminal nonsupport.

MO *1996 Mo. Laws, SB 869*
Sec. 4 (2); 452.345—Requires the supreme court to set the fees to produce revenue for costs of maintaining records. Repeals language requiring circuit clerks to charge fees.

Sec. 210.160, .842; 442.035; 452.402, .423, .490—Changes GAL fees from a court cost to a court judgment in child custody, visitation and support cases.

NY *1996 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 389*
Mandates the court to require verification of the custody and child support status of children from a marriage in dissolution. Requires the orders to be entered in court records.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, HB 167*
Sec. 2301.34(C), 2301.373; 3113.21(P)—Defines terms regarding child support orders.

Sec. 311.241(J)—Authorizes the court to find an obligor in-contempt for noncompliance with an administrative support or health insurance order.

Sec. 3109.19—Makes grandparents liable under certain circumstances for support of minor parent's children and outlines circumstances terminating the obligation.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 233*
Requires court-ordered child support to be enforceable until paid in full. Specifies that liens against real property become dormant if not executed immediately, or within five years from the date of judgment.

RI *1995 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 374*
Allows the department to refer cases of willful nonsupport to the attorney general for prosecution. Specifies felony and imprisonment conditions. Permits the court to issue orders for body attachments and requires the court to transmit original body attachment orders or cancellations into the Rhode Island Law Enforcement Telecommunications System. Requires authorization for peace officers to execute the court's body attachment order.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 110*
Lowers the amount of a felonious arrearage from $10,000 to $8,000.

WY *1996 Wyo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 77*
Permits recovery from obligors for attorney's fees and other costs of seeking enforcement.

Enforcement Techniques

DC *1996 D.C. Law 11-87*
Sec. 2—Requires notifying the mayor about child support obligors delinquent more than 60 days.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 800*
Permits confinement of in-contempt obligors to diversion programs during off-work hours.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, ACT 3*
Requires offsets against delinquent obligors' state or federal income tax refunds when requested by the friend of the court. Requires prompt reimbursement of amounts withheld in error or excess.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 13*
Requires the department to determine if there are arrearages by lottery winners before awarding any prize of $1,000 or more.

NC *1996 N.C. Sess. Laws, Chap. 674*
Creates liens upon nonreoccurring insurance proceeds in excess of $3,000 to recover past due support, subordinate to other insurance proceeds for personal injuries covered by a health plan.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, HB 167*
Sec. 5101.31, 5703.21, 5747.18—Grants the Department of Human Services access to information from the Department of Taxation, the Bureau of Motor Vehicles and the Law Enforcement Division to assist the child support enforcement division in locating a missing parent pursuant to child support orders.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 270*
Allows consumer reporting agencies to request information on the past due status of an obligor's payment. Requires the state to provide complete information regarding the obligor, including the type and the amount of the support order. Requires a reasonable fee in responding to the request. Prohibits releasing information to other entities that the department believes are not consumer reporting agencies.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 233*
Requires court-ordered child support to be enforceable until paid in full. Specifies that liens against real property become dormant if not executed immediately, or within five years from the date of judgment.

RI *1995 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 381*
Requires that winnings over $600 be offset for payment of child support debts, and sets conditions to regulate the offsets.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 452*
Strengthens existing laws for application, enforcement and collection of child support payments or arrearages.

VT *1996 Vt. Acts, Act 156*
Authorizes collection of child support debts from lottery winnings, and requires notification and suspension of prize payments to the winner.

Guidelines/Modifications/Extended Support

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 747*
Changes the formula for computing and awarding child support payments.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1141*
Allows administrative review and adjustment of orders within 30 days of original issuance when requested by the challenging party, or within 10 days from the second notice. Removes the timeframe for pending reinstatement orders from the six-months that precede a suspension order becoming final.

ID *1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, SB 1298*
Makes the parent of a minor parent liable for the support of the minor parent's child, until the minor parent reaches age 18.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 78*
Allows the court to modify a child support order by the amount of an educational support order.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 365*
Establishes guidelines for the collection or modification of a child support order including a state's jurisdiction over a new or existing order whether initiated in Kentucky or another state. Establishes notification procedures.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 199*
Extends the child support obligation under certain circumstances, for children between 18 and 21 years of age residing at home; and also for children 21 to 23 years of age who reside at home and attend educational programs. Excludes costs beyond an undergraduate degree.

MI *1995 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 240*
Requires that certain health care coverage be part of child support orders.

MS *1996 Miss. Laws, HB 1402*
Determines that the duty of support terminates upon the emancipation of the child. Defines age of majority at 21 years. Clarifies additional circumstances for the emancipation of a child and termination of support before age 21.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 652*
Requires that petitions for PINS include a notice that upon placement of the child by the department, the parents or other legally responsible party for the respondent's care be named in a child support proceeding.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, SB 73*
Requires child support for a child through age 18.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 287*
Authorizes court-ordered child support up to age 19 if the child is enrolled in high school and plans to graduate, and beyond age 19 under exceptional or preagreed circumstances. Clarifies the court's authority to extend support past the age of minority due to physical or mental disabilities.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 171*
Clarifies the definition of gross income to calculate child support obligations. Allows the court to consider time worked in excess of 40 hours during the time before the original support order.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 110*
Changes the guidelines used to determine basic child support awards.

Health or Medical Support

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 130*
Allows the court to issue temporary support orders, and outlines procedures for determining a basic support amount that includes child and health care costs.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 128*
Requires the obligee, in cases where the obligor provides employer sponsored health insurance coverage, to send notice by first class mail to the insurer stating that the obligor is under court order to provide health coverage. Requires the insurer to inform the obligee or the department of any cancellation in coverage.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1141*
Allows ex parte interstate orders for modification of health coverage.

ID *1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, HB 413*
Prohibits employers from denying health coverage to an employee's child for whom child support has been ordered, with exceptions.

MI *1995 Mich. Pub. Acts, Act 240*
Requires that health care coverage be part of child support orders and prohibits HMOs and health insurers, under specified conditions, from denying coverage to an enrollee's dependent children.

MI *1995 Mich. Pub. Acts, Act 241*
Requires enforcement of health coverage orders. Allows charging an obligor with contempt for failing to respond within 14 days of notice.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 18*
Requires the court to include medical coverage when determining child support. Sets penalties for noncompliance.

RI *1995 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 374*
Requires the court to order medical coverage. Requires obligor's employer to enroll the child in the available health insurance plan if the obligor fails to do so. Establishes provisions for the employer to follow for enrolling the child. Requires that the obligor notify subsequent employers of an outstanding order for wage garnishment or health insurance.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 110*
Redefines terms used in the enforcement of medical support.

Income Withholding/Income-Tax Refund Offset/New Hires Reporting

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 130*
Clarifies definitions and procedures for income assignment orders, including timeframes for notice and allowable objections.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, Chap. 268*
Requires the department to submit lists of all obligors, whether delinquent or not, to the labor department for crossmatching with new hires and rehires.

DC *1996 D.C. Law 11-47*
Establishes conditions for issuing income withholding orders.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 25*
Sec. 1, 3—Prohibits the total amount withheld from the income of obligors from exceeding the maximum set by the federal Consumer Credit Protection Act.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 189*
Sec. 2—Allows the department of public safety to garnish inmates' earnings to satisfy court-ordered child support, restitution to victims, and other specified costs.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1141*
Allows the department to send income withholding orders to the obligor by regular mail, and makes the order as effective as the court's.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 365*
Requires employers to notify the Cabinet for Human Resources of terminated employees for whom a wage withholding is in effect.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 81*
Requires employers to notify the social services department of new hires and rehires to facilitate the accurate and prompt collection of child support obligations.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, HB 167*
Sec. 5101.312—Requires employers to report to the human services department any new hires or rehires for facilitating child support collection. Requires employers to pay a $25 fee for each failure to report.

Sec. 3111.23 (B)(1)(C), .99; 3113.21(O)(1)(C), .99—Requires obligors to give notice of employment changes for wage assignment purposes. Sets penalties for noncompliance.

RI *1995 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 374*
Requires that the clerk, or the department, notify the employer of an income withholding order. Requires that the obligor notify subsequent employers of an outstanding order for wage garnishment or health insurance. Makes failure to comply punishable by imprisonment, fine or both.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 244*
Establishes that child and spousal support issued as part of protective orders are subject to mandatory income withholding.

Interstate Enforcement

DC *1996 D.C. Law 11-81*
Adopts the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA).

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 463*
Adopts the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA).

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1141*
Allows ex parte interstate orders for modification of health coverage.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 365*
Sec. 17-24—Establishes guidelines for the collection or modification of a child support order including a state's jurisdiction over a new or existing order whether initiated in Kentucky or another state. Establishes notification procedures.

Sec. 13-63—Adopts the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA).

Sec. 59 (2)(a)(b)—Allows the state's governor to surrender obligors charged with criminal nonsupport in other states, and upon demand by the governor requires that any other state governor surrender criminally charged obligors to Kentucky.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 667*
Adopts the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA).

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 11*
Facilitates the enforcement of interstate income withholding orders.

MO *1996 Mo. Laws, HB 992*
Adopts the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act's (UIFSA) procedures and guidelines for paternity determination and child support.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 452*
Revises definitions and general provisions under the established Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA).

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 149*
Adopts the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA).

License Revocation/Suspension

AK *1996 Alaska Sess. Laws, Chap. 107*
Allows suspension of an obligor's driver's license, or denial of an application, or renewal of a professional or occupational license, for nonpayment of support.

AL *1996 Ala. Acts, Act 563*
Sec. 30-3-170—Allows suspension of an obligor's driver's license, or denial for a renewal, for nonpayment of support. Establishes criteria for reissuance.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, P.A. 268*
Allows suspension of an obligor's driver's license for nonpayment of support.

DC *1996 D.C. Law 11-87*
Sec. 3—Allows suspension of car registration, driver's or professional license if support is overdue by more than 60 days and the obligor has adequate income. Establishes conditions for suspension and remedies.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, Chap. 452 (1996)*
Allows suspension of an obligor's driver's or professional license for nonpayment of support. Requires enforcement of health coverage orders. Allows charging the obligor with contempt for failing to respond within 14 days of notice.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 747*
Allows suspension or denial of a delinquent obligors' driver's or professional licenses for nonpayment of support.

ID *1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, SB 1304*
Allows suspension of an obligors' driver's, occupational or recreational license for nonpayment of support that is 3 months past due, $2,000 in arrears or for noncompliance with paternity, support subpoenas and visitation orders.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 1292*
Allows suspension of driver's or professional license of an obligor in arrears by more than $2,000 or whose payments are three months past due.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 351*
Alters the language of provisions that allow suspending an obligor's driver's license for failure to comply with a court order. States available remedies and the obligor's right to appeal. Requires both the human resources and the transportation departments to implement newly adopted regulations.

MS *1996 Miss. Laws, SB 2070*
Allows suspension of an obligor's driver's or occupational license or car registration for nonpayment of support. Makes amnesty provisions.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 81*
Allows suspension of driver's, business, professional or occupational licenses for nonpayment of support.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, HB 167*
Sec. 3, 8—Allows suspension of a commercial driver's license or permit and occupational or professional license.

RI *1995 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 374*
Requires the department to periodically furnish information about delinquent obligors to the division of motor vehicles, in order to deny registration or renewals of vehicle licenses; or deny obtaining or renewing an operator's license.

SD *1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 167*
Allows suspension or denial of delinquent obligors' driver's or professional licenses for nonpayment of support.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, P.A. 892*
Allows suspension of an obligor's driver's, sporting or professional license for nonpayment of support.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 150*
Allows suspension of an obligor's driver's license for failing to comply with a child support order or court-ordered visitation.

Paternity

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 130*
Reduces the timeframe from 1 year to 6 months for establishing paternity after receipt of a notice of paternity.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 909*
Allows a GAL to represent a minor in paternity petitions. Prohibits the same person from being both GAL and counsel to a ward of the state or an incapacitated person.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 17*
Sec. 1—Permits serving an action to establish paternity by certified mail if the defendant cannot be reached otherwise. Considers the defendant's signature upon the receipt as prima facie evidence of summons acceptance by the defendant from the date on the receipt.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 154*
Sec. 1—Requires hospitals' maternity wards and birthing centers to provide forms and information on voluntary paternity acknowledgment.

ID *1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, SB 1307*
Allows voluntary acknowledgments of paternity to be legal and sufficient to establish a support order without genetic testing.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 437*
Allows a parent to seek a protective order against the other party after a final decree of paternity of a child.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1141*
Allows retroactive paternity establishment where the putative father's paternity was disestablished, but subsequently determined biologically correct.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 365*
Allows voluntary acknowledgment of paternity to be considered the same as a judgment of paternity.

Requires the hospital to give paternity information to an unmarried father.

Recognizes a voluntary acknowledgment of paternity sufficient basis for seeking a support order, regardless of the alleged father's willingness to consent to the order.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, Act 6*
Requires hospitals to set up a system for voluntary paternity acknowledgment by unwed parents. Grants hospitals immunity from civil or criminal liability.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 18*
Requires the court to order paternity determination under specified circumstances. Sets penalties for noncompliance with a court order.

MO *1996 Mo. Laws, HB 992*
Adopts the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act's (UIFSA) procedures and guidelines for paternity determination.

OH	*1996 Ohio Laws, HB 167* *Sec.* 3111.21-.22—Clarifies that an administrative determination of paternity, or order for the payment of support, becomes final and enforceable if neither the mother or alleged father objects to the determination by bringing an action in juvenile court. *Sec.* 2151.231, 3111.20—Establishes a support obligation for a man who is the presumed natural father. Permits bringing an action in juvenile court for child support against such father. *Sec.* 3109.19—Makes the parents of minor parents responsible for the minor child's support, under certain conditions.
RI	*1995 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 320* Allows a putative father to request paternity determination.
RI	*1996 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 45* Permits the court to inquire into paternity of an allegedly abused or neglected child, and requires that the putative father be notified. Removes department obligation to make unification efforts between the child and the putative father if the father fails to appear or denies paternity.
RI	*1996 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 129* *Sec.* 8—Requires AFDC recipients to establish paternity and cooperate with child support enforcement.
SC	*1996 S.C. Acts, Act 452* Strengthens existing laws for paternity establishment.
TN	*1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, P.A. 950* *Sec.* 5—Requires public assistance recipients to cooperate with paternity establishment as a condition of eligibility.
WI	*1995 Wis. Laws, Act 68* Outlines how paternity is to be determined in conjunction with a petition for visitation by a grandparent.
WI	*1995 Wis. Laws, Act 100* Allows the court to order, or any other party to request, genetic testing for determining paternity.
WI	*1995 Wis. Laws, Act 289* *Sec.* 86—Requires W-2 participants to cooperate with paternity and child support enforcement.

Public Assistance and Child Support

DC	*1996 D.C. Law 11-47* Requires child support orders to direct absent parents to keep the IV-D Program informed of their health insurance status.
DC	*1996 D.C. Law Act 11-72* *Sec.* 552— Allows public recipients to retain the entire amount of child support collected on behalf of an excluded child. *Sec.* 567—Allows a noncustodial parent to participate in the JOBS program for up to 40 hours per week if he or she is unable to meet child support obligations.
DC	*1996 D.C. Law 11-87* *Sec.* 4—Permits the district to retain 50 percent of child support collected on behalf of AFDC recipients.
HI	*1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 178* *Sec.* 2—Authorizes direct payment of child support from the obligor to the custodial parent, instead of income withholding, except in cases where the children are receiving public assistance or the obligor owes a public assistance or child support debt.
ID	*1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, HB 414* Allows the court to award attorney's fees to the prevailing party in Title IV-D actions.

ID *1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, HB 421*
Allows the department to initiate collection from an absent parent, for public assistance that was provided to the child, up to five years after the child has reached the age of majority or dies.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1106*
Sec. 18—Allows the department to require minor parents who are ordered to pay child support to attend parenting classes.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 12*
Requires annual determination of the gross amount of support collected by the friend of the court for AFDC recipients and establishes a 3 percent friend of the court incentive payment program.

MS *1996 Miss. Laws, HB 1347*
Authorizes the department to withhold child support payments as reimbursement for state provided services to children. Requires the adoption of policies to minimize hardship when withholding current support.

PA *1996 Pa. Laws, Act 35*
Waives the requirement to appear in person before the court or domestic relations section if another procedure is as effective. Prevents granting assistance eligibility until the applicant's cooperation with paternity and support is established. Defines noncooperation. Requires a presumption of noncooperation by the mother for failing to name the father, rebuttable only by clear and convincing evidence. Provides for appeals. Sets regulations under which an applicant or recipient may appeal a notice of noncooperation, and requires that a finding of noncooperation not interfere with an obligor's duty to pay. Continues pass-through payments.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, P.A. 950*
Sec. 5—Requires public assistance recipients to cooperate with child support enforcement.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Chap. 289*
Sec. 89—Allows eligibility for jobs services to noncustodial parents who are subject to a child support order.

CHILD WELFARE

Administration/Research

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 418*

Makes relatives taking care of AFDC-FC qualified children whose parents' rights have been terminated eligible to receive foster care payments until adoption is finalized.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 170*

Sec. 1—Authorizes pilot programs in five or more counties to test the utilization of child placement agencies or their alternatives. Outlines child placement agency features. Requires an external evaluation of effectiveness and a status report to the Legislature. Establishes local advisory groups of foster and group home parents to assist in design, implementation, and evaluation.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 230*

Requires the state auditor to conduct programmatic reviews of all state prevention and intervention programs. Specifies information sharing procedures.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 175*

Sec. 27—Requires the development of integrated service delivery strategies related to welfare reform and child welfare services.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1213*

Sec. 10—Authorizes the development of outcome-based child welfare services pilot projects after input from providers. Appropriates funds to develop a performance-based monitoring program to evaluate and improve outcomes for children and families.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 166*

Creates a task force on children in placement to study population characteristics, options, financing, rate structures, licensing and evaluation. Requires an interim and final report and an advisory group including legislative leadership and up to 15 citizen members representing stakeholders.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 197*

Mandates a study of the state health and human service delivery system including recommendations for improvements in efficiency, consolidation of funding streams, reinvesting in community-based services, service delivery, and single entry points for services.

MO *1996 Mo. Laws, SB 876*

Sec. 2—Allows Family Services Advisory Council members to be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses.

Sec. 5—Reinstates a task force to study the current status of foster home and residential care facility placement of children. Increases the number of parents on the task force and provides support.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 653*

In certain circumstances, allows case information collected by the state or other service providers to be released for research projects.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, HB 117*

Closes the Ohio Veterans' Children's home and establishes a task force to make recommendations regarding the future use of the Home's facilities, including an analysis of the option of using the facilities for family and children's services.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 747*

Sec. 1-4—Creates a statewide public awareness campaign about shaken baby syndrome. Requires the development of free information and instructional material for parents or guardians of newborns, child welfare agencies, and others.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 1079*
Sec. 3, 183—Creates the Department of Children's Services to integrate child welfare, juvenile justice, and certain functions from health, education, and mental health agencies to improve services to children in or at-risk of state custody. Creates a joint legislative committee to oversee implementation. Extends the duration of the Joint Select Committee on Children and Youth.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 80*
Revises purposes and definitions for child welfare agency.

Adoption

AZ *1996 Ariz. Sess. Laws, Chap. 170*
Sec. 12—Allows voluntary acknowledgment of paternity by a birth mother and father to be a determination of paternity, unless the mother or alleged father rescind the acknowledgment within 60 days, or if a person challenges the paternity determination.

AZ *1996 Ariz. Sess. Laws, Chap. 261*
Extends access to confidential child abuse and neglect records to people performing preadoption investigations and to legislators with oversight of child protective services issues.

AZ *1996 Ariz. Sess. Laws, Chap. 300*
Sec. 1—Considers that relative had custody of a child to be adopted in preadoption certification.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 540*
Specifies that the assessment conducted to determine the long-term placement include an analysis of whether the child's characteristics would make adoption difficult. Requires periodic reassessment. Mandates a report to the Legislature on the number of children freed for adoption under this temporary procedure.

Revises the procedures for placing a child into adoption or guardianship. Allows a minor to remain in long-term foster care if the court determines that the child is not a proper subject for adoption.

Revises the limit on the adoption assistance payment.

CA *1996 Cal. Stats., Chap. 884*
Sec. 2—Prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin against a potential adoptive parent or child.

Sec. 3—Requires the department or licensed agency to which a child has been freed for adoption to be responsible for the child's care until an adoption is granted.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 63*
Sec. 7—Requires the department to prescribe specific standards for the licensing of adoption agencies.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, Act 130*
Sec. 12—Requires that an application for the adoption of a minor unrelated to the adopting parents will not be accepted by the probate court unless the placement requirements have been waived by the adoption review board or the application is for adoption of a minor by a stepparent.

Sec. 21—Defines adoptable person as one who has not been adopted but whose biological parents had their parental rights terminated.

Sec. 24, 27—Makes available certain nonidentifying information furnished to the child-placing agency to certain people upon written request. Allows a person entitled to nonidentifying information to request such information by application.

Sec. 29—Allows an authorized applicant to apply for the release of information that identifies or would tend to identify biological relatives who are unknown as the result of an adoption or termination of parental rights. Requires an effort be made to locate the person or people sought in the request. Allows the agency to release the requested information unless it determines that it would harm the person whose identity is requested.

ID *1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, SB 1469*
Eliminates identification of parentage in determining whether a child is eligible for foreign adoption.

IL *1996 Ill. Laws, P.A. 89-644*
Sec. 13—Allows the court to appoint a licensed attorney to represent a child sought for adoption.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, S. 381*
Specifies that certain expenses do not constitute profiting from an adoption.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, H. 1378*
Sec. 8—Authorizes the court to order a plan for a gradual change of custody, unless it would endanger the child's physical health or impair his or her emotional development.

Sec. 9—Requires that a person who consents to an adoption may not withdraw the consent after the entry of the adoption decree. Prohibits a person who is served with a notice of an adoption from contesting the adoption or establishing paternity more than 30 days after the date of notice.

IA *1995 Iowa Acts, Chap. 182*
Defers registration of a child to the adoption exchange under certain circumstances.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1174*
Sec. 7—Requires the court to notify the parent or guardian of a pregnant minor or a minor who has given birth of a hearing to terminate parental rights. Allows the court to waive notification if the minor is capable of consenting to the termination.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 116*
Sec. 1—Provides that foreign country adoption decrees and finalization documents have the same status as those granted under state provisions.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 325*
Sec. 2—Allows notification to an adoptive parent, adult adopted person, or adoptable person of a physician-verified medical or genetic condition that may affect the physical or mental health of genetically related people.

Sec. 3—Requires the department to develop a protocol for statewide procedures to expedite adoptions for children in state care.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 354*
Raises the maximum income tax deduction for expenses incurred by adoptive parents.

MD *1995 Md. Laws, Chap. 608*
Authorizes a court to terminate a biological parent's rights in an independent adoption if he or she has committed a crime of violence against the other biological parent and has been sentenced to prison.

MI *1995 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 107*
Adds "adoption information" to the list of nonconfidential information available on a public information request form.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 416*
Changes the definition of a "child with special needs" for the purposes of adoption assistance. Prohibits adoption assistance payments for children at high risk of a disability until the disability is manifested. Allows appeal for parents denied adoption assistance. Eliminates the requirement that potential adoptive families reflect the ethnic diversity of children to be adopted.

MT *1995 Mont. Laws, Chap. 8*
Authorizes disclosure of "nonidentifying" information to an adoptee, an adoptive or biological parent, or an extended family member of an adoptee or biological parent. Penalizes a person who knowingly discloses identifying information from court or agency adoption records.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, HB 419*
Sec. 3107.07—Dispenses with a father's consent to adoption if the child to be adopted was conceived due to rape and the father has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to that offense.

Establishes provisions for confidentiality and release of adoption information records for people who became available for adoption on or after September 18, 1996. Allows biological parents of these adoptees to waive confidentiality of past records. Stipulates that an officer or employee of the department of health is not liable in a civil action if the officer or employee releases adoption records in accordance with state law.

Sec. 3107.011—Requires a person adopting to use an agency or attorney to arrange the adoption. Prohibits attorneys from representing both the adoptive and birth parent.

Sec. 3107.07, 3107.11—Requires a person, agency or juvenile court that fails to file an objection within 14 days after receiving notice loses the right to object or consent to an adoption.

Sec. 3107.161—Requires a probate court, in a contested adoption, to consider relevant factors in determining the best interest of the child, including the age and health of the child, the child's wishes, the separation period of the child from the parent, and the likelihood of a safe reunification with a parent within a reasonable time.

Sec. 3107.061-3107.065, 3107.07—Establishes a putative father registry and establishes guidelines for registration. Stipulates that the consent of a putative father to the adoption of a child born on or after January 1, 1997 is not needed if he fails to register not later than 30 days after the child's birth.

Sec. 3107.18—Authorizes adoptive parents who adopted a child in a foreign country to petition a probate court to grant an adoption petition and order the department of health to issue a birth record for the child.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, H. 266*
Permits a decree or certificate of adoption issued under the laws of a foreign country that is verified and approved by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service to be recognized in Ohio and allows an Ohio probate court to issue an adoption decree to an adoptive parent who already adopted the child in another country.

Stipulates that proof of finalization of an adoption outside the United States is prima facie evidence of the consent of the parties required to give consent even if the foreign adoption was decreed with respect to only one of two adoptive parents who seek to adopt the child in Ohio. Requires the department of health to issue a foreign birth record for a child whose adoption decree or certificate was issued in a foreign country on receipt of a court order.

PR *1996 Puerto Rico Laws, PC 1607*
Sec. Art. 130-138—Clarifies who may adopt and who may be adopted. Specifies conditions. Sets guidelines for adoption by married couples. Outlines those who are allowed to consent to adoption.

RI *1995 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 95-54*
Allows an adult adoptee to receive noncertified copies of his or her birth certificate under certain circumstances.

RI *1995 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 166*
Defines the term "relevant parties" as only those eligible to register and use an adoption registry for voluntary reunions.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 237*
Sec. 1—Requires the court to make certain determinations regarding adoption placement with nonresidents of the state.

Sec. 2—Requires consent to adoption to be made after the birth of the adoptee and requires certain information.

SD *1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 164*
Permits the court to waive consent to adoption if it is in the best interest of the child and the parent or putative father fails to appear at the termination hearing after receiving notice.

SD *1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 165*
Requires a birth parent counseling report to be submitted directly to the court and a copy mailed to the Department of Social Services.

SD *1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 166*
Requires any adoption proceeding to be legalized two years after the proceeding is finalized. Requires any person with a claim or right arising from any adoption proceeding to initiate action within two years.

TN *1995 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 532*
Sec. 110—Permits a parent under age 18 to surrender a child or give consent to adoption and to release rights to a child.

Sec. 111—Allows prospective adoptive parents to request a licensed agency, a licensed social worker or the department to conduct a home study or preliminary home study.

Sec. 115—Authorizes a person over 18 years old to petition to adopt and request a name change for the adopted person.

Sec. 117—Requires that the legal parent or guardian and the biological parents must be made parties to the adoption proceeding and their rights to the child must be terminated prior to the adoption.

Sec. 118—Authorizes the court to dismiss adoption proceedings, order surrender or revoke parental consent if it finds through convincing evidence that the child should not be adopted.

Sec. 123—Authorizes the court to use an appeals-expedited schedule in cases of contested termination of parental rights and adoptions.

Sec. 125, 127-128, 130, 138-139—Revises provisions for access to records. Permits access to certain agencies and officials. Makes unauthorized disclosure of adoption records a misdemeanor. Gives people who are the subject of an adoption petition from 1951 and later access to sealed adoption records. Establishes procedures for requests for access to records. Allows information to be released pursuant to court orders. Makes providing false information in relation to search requests or access to records a felony. Authorizes a Contact Veto Registry to permit registration by people willing or unwilling to have contact with a person with access to any records.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 1068*
Sec. 1—Makes it a misdemeanor to use information from adoption records to injure the person whose name was obtained. Allows the injured person to bring an action for injunctive relief and damages.

Sec. 2—Prohibits release of adoption records without written consent of the biological parent if such parent was the victim of rape or incest. Allows the lineal descendants to petition the court to gain access to identifying information if the parent is deceased or if a conservator has been appointed.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 2737*
Sec. 2—Defines the rights of adopted people and their families to obtain information from adoption records and sealed records. Recognizes the rights of parents and adopted people not to be contacted by people who obtain such information.

Sec. 63, 81—Requires all adoption records and proceedings to be confidential and disclosed only by law.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 185*
Allows a recipient of public financial assistance to receive services and support after placing a child for adoption, including reimbursement for expenses associated with care and confinement during pregnancy, education and employment assistance, and other necessary food or health assistance. Requires adoption information to be presented in certain public schools.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 206*
Requires a health insurance policy to reimburse an ensured for the birth of an adopted child if the ensured has maternity benefits, under certain conditions.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 318*
Sec. 23—Prohibits adoption placements based solely on race, ethnicity, or cultural heritage of the child or the prospective adoptive parents.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 327*
Increases the deduction amount for adoption expenses.

VA *1995 Va. Acts, Chap. 772*
Defines birth parent. Allows a birth parent who resides out-of-state to execute consent in the state of residence. Gives adoptive parents custody after the court's acceptance of the consent. Allows the court to give adoptive parents custody of a child in 15 days if the birth parents fail to appear at a consent hearing. Defines what expenses may be paid for the adoption and on behalf of the birth parents.

VT *1996 Vt. Acts, Act 161*
Sec. 1—Defines who may adopt or be adopted, the legal consequences of adoption, and the rights of the adoptee.

Sec. 2—Addresses issues related to placement procedures, evaluations of adoptive parents, and the procedure of adoption consent by parents.

Sec. 4-5—Establishes procedures for adoptions by stepparents of adults and emancipated minors.

Sec. 6-7—Provides for the confidentiality of adoption records and when and to whom such records may be disclosed. Explains prohibited and permissible activities and payment procedures in connection with adoption.

WA *1996 Wash. Laws, Chap. 130*
Authorizes the secretary to establish maximum adoption assistance payments. Requires that continuing payments include amounts sufficient to remove any reasonable financial barrier to adoption.

Family Preservation Services/Permanency Plans

AK *1996 Alaska Sess. Laws, Chap. 120*
Sec. 8—Requires runaway programs to determine appropriate services for family reunification.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, P.A. 246*
Sec. 18—Requires the department to demonstrate clear and convincing evidence of their effort to locate and reunify a parent and child before granting an involuntary termination of parental rights. Requires the court to make written findings concerning reunification efforts.

Sec. 20—Requires the court, whenever it gives temporary custody of a child to the state, to give the agency and the parent specific steps the parent can take for the child's return.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 302*
Sec. 2-6—Establishes a three-year child protective and diversion services pilot project and a child protective services reform coordinating committee. Outlines project and committee activities including the establishment of two "neighborhood place" sites for child welfare service delivery, a statewide central telephone intake system offering child welfare information and services, staff training, an evaluation component, and reporting requirements.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chapters 595 and 596*
Requires the permanency plan hearing to be held no later than 10 months after an abuse and neglect adjudication. Requires such hearings to be held every six months thereafter with exceptions. Requires the termination of parental rights hearing to be held in lieu of the next review hearing in cases where the court has determined that the child is to be placed for adoption.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 450*
Sec. 20—Clarifies the parents' role in making a home safe, agency participation, and time frames in case plans. Requires visitation with siblings and other relatives close to the child. Requires parents' participation in alcohol or drug abuse treatment programs as part of the case plans where children are removed due to an addiction of the parent. Authorizes a court to hold the agency in contempt for failure to comply with the treatment plan.

Requires a hearing for children in foster care for more than a year, to decide on permanent placement, reunification, adoption, or other long-term arrangement.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 318*
Sec. 59—Establishes a pilot program to provide intensive family-based services for families with children in or at risk of out-of-home placement.

VT *1996 Vt. Acts, Act 137*
Requires the state to report on children with a severe emotional disturbance who do not receive services. Specifies that services are not to be conditional on placement in legal custody or protective services.

WA *1996 Wash. Laws, Chap. 133*
Sec. 14, 18, 20-27—Requires the state to notify the parent of a runaway child's whereabouts and to offer services to resolve the conflict and reunify the family. Allows a child or parent to file a child in need of services petition when they cannot agree to an out-of-home placement.

Sec. 39—Requires the state to establish contracts with private vendors for transitional living programs for dependent youth being emancipated as part of their permanency plan.

WA *1996 Wash. Laws, Chap. 240*
Authorizes the use of paraprofessionals to provide some family preservation services under the direction of a therapist and allows larger caseloads and service durations in some cases.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 143*
Reduces county reporting to the state concerning permanency planning.

Financing/Training

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 281*
Requires the development of a two and a half-year curriculum for the enhanced basic foster parent training program. Requires curriculum to include teenage pregnancy prevention.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 418*
Sec. 1—Makes relatives taking care of AFDC-FC qualified children, whose parents' rights have been terminated, eligible to receive foster care payments until adoption is finalized.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 471*
Sec. 1-5—Increases the number of counties from five to six that can participate in a five-year children's services pilot program to transfer funding for specific services into a single, blended children and family services fund. Extends program duration to July 1, 2002.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 287*
Sec. 8 (5)—Authorizes four state agencies to create decategorized service accounts to serve multiproblem children and youth. Requires a joint report to the Legislature.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1213*
Sec. 1-3—Outlines a procedure to establish and comply with state and regional budget targets for children in group care, with exceptions.

Requires parental notification of the financial liability for foster care at the time of the child's placement.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 353*
Sec. 12—Establishes a foster parent education program.

SD *1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 176*
Sec. 1—Specifies that the county pays initial costs for custodial care of a child before disposition or after placement in a detention facility, or while awaiting placement in a corrections or human services facility.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 318*
Sec. 8—Clarifies that waivers for school fees are applicable to children in out-of-home placement who are IV-E eligible.

Legal Procedures/Policy/Records

AL *1996 Ala. Acts, Act 570*
Sec. 12-15-71 (a), (e)—Allows the court to make a certain disposition order to protect the welfare of a child found to be dependent. Prohibits a child found in need of supervision from being committed to or placed in an institution or facility for delinquent children, unless the child is found to be delinquent or is not amenable to treatment or rehabilitation.

Sec. 12-15-71 (h)—Allows the juvenile court to appoint a guardian ad litem for a multiple needs child.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 540*
Sec. 1—Prohibits the use of a parent or legal guardian's signature on a child welfare services case plan as evidence against the parent or guardian in court. Allows the parent's or guardian's failure to cooperate with the plan as evidence in determining termination of parental rights. Requires that parents and guardians be notified of these conditions.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 19*
Sec. 1—Consolidates definitions from the Colorado Children's Code into one statutory provision including child care, child abuse, juvenile justice, out-of-home placement, adoption, mental health, and legal matters.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 63*
Sec. 16—Clarifies that social workers or workers in a family child care home or foster care home are required to report abuse and neglect.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 230*
Sec. 6 (19-1-301)—Allows state agencies, the judicial department, and school personnel to exchange certain information. Requires a consent form for voluntary exchange. Specifies procedures in involuntary cases. Consolidates all records provisions in the children's code.

Sec. 6 (19-1-311)—Creates an information management committee to develop a legislative proposal to implement plans for a cross-agency, centralized integrated data base system to track children receiving state services.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, Act 263*
Requires the department to disclose identifying information of a child receiving services if the child is in imminent danger. Requires social services to provide written notice to clients that this information may be released.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 33*
Sec. 1—Requires the human services department to release identifying information on licensed or certified foster parents and approved relative caregivers to any association, agency or government entity that would benefit the foster parents or caregivers, unless they sign a confidentiality statement.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, HB 1363*
Sec. 1—Gives the juvenile court jurisdiction over a delinquent child or a child in need of services and over his or her parent, guardian, or custodian until the parent, guardian, or custodian fulfills the necessary financial obligation.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1092*
Sec. 6—Allows the court to grant the child's parents reasonable visitation if it determines that visitation will not cause a risk to the child's life or health when the child was removed because illegal drugs were present in the child's body.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 229*
Sec. 33 (a) (b)—Prohibits disclosure of records or reports concerning a child in need of care. Allows certain people and entities to have free exchange of information.

Sec. 33 (j)—Makes it a misdemeanor to disclose confidential records or reports concerning a child in need of services.

MA *1995 Mass. Acts, Chap. 210*
Creates a standby and emergency guardianship proxy system for children. Stipulates that the proxy be chosen by the child's parents and begin with the death or incapacity of a parent.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 652*
Requires that petitions for PINS include a notice that upon placement of the child by the department, the parents or other legally responsible party for the respondent's care be named in a child support proceeding.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 200*
Sec. 7-8—Allows the district attorney or child's attorney to object to and seek review of a court order allowing release of a child from state custody, based on the grounds that the child will be at risk of physical or sexual abuse. Outlines procedures of review. Allows representatives from the Department of Human Services to present sworn testimony regarding the release of a child from state custody.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 450*
Changes the requirement for a family court hearing from 40 days to within 35 days of the date of a petition to remove a child. Requires the noncustodial parents be notified of the hearing. Requires that the parents be notified that the hearing could lead to termination of parental rights. Clarifies standard for removal to be unreasonable risk to a child's life and physical or mental health or safety that cannot be avoided without removing the child. Requires that the court order contain specific findings that reasonable efforts were made to protect the child without removal.

Authorizes the court to hold the department in-contempt for failure to comply with a treatment plan. Allows the family court to consider a parent's refusal, on two separate occasions, to participate in a court or agency treatment program, or failure to successfully complete the program two or more times, as a presumed "condition unlikely to change" and grounds for termination of parental rights. Requires creation of a new permanency plan if the court denies termination plan.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 314*
Authorizes the court to discontinue reunification services after six months if the parent or parents have not made substantial efforts to comply with a treatment plan.

VA *1995 Va. Acts, Chap. 490*
Allows the court appointed special advocate (CASA) to meet with a mental health provider to review and interpret a child's treatment records.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 64*
Sec. 1-6—Allows information sharing between the county Department of Social Services, developmental disabilities services units, or service contractors without the informed consent of the client.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 77*
Sec. 938.371—Permits disclosure of certain information, including HIV testing and disabilities, to foster homes and other placements.

WY *1996 Wyo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 49*
Limits the definition of "children in need of supervision" to youth under age 17.

Out-of-Home Placement/Foster Care

AL *1996 Ala. Acts, Chap. 765*
Sec. 38-7-5—Allows the provisional approval of foster family homes in emergency situations.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 281*
Requires the development of a two and a half-year curriculum for the enhanced basic foster parent training program. Requires the curriculum to include teenage pregnancy prevention.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 418*
Sec. 1—Makes relatives taking care of AFDC-FC qualified children, whose parents' rights have been terminated, eligible to receive foster care payments until adoption is finalized.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 453*
Requires the department to establish five-year kinship care pilot projects in five counties, with federal approval, involving only children placed with relatives and receiving AFDC-FC payments. Specifies guidelines.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 509*
Establishes a community foster care pilot project, in up to five counties, to place children in the homes of nonlicensed, nonrelative extended members. Authorizes the reimbursement, including AFDC-FC payments, at rates consistent with other foster family homes. Specifies that federal reimbursement be sought to implement the project.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 540*
Sec. 1.5—Requires that any complaint against a community care facility be confidential if the complaint is intended to harass or is unfounded.

Revises the procedures for placing a child into adoption or guardianship. Allows a minor to remain in long-term foster care if the court determines that the child is not a proper subject for adoption.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 724*
Authorizes the department to enter into agreements with Indian tribes concerning foster care.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 832*
Sec. 1-5, 6.5—Expands the intensive foster care pilot program to be applicable in any participating county, revises eligibility requirements, payment procedures and funding. Requires each foster family agency to have a contract or memorandum of understanding with the county. Outlines the services and activities to be provided. Allows children to be enrolled after June 30, 1996. Repeals sunset date. Requires each foster family care program to have a contract or memorandum of understanding with the county. Outlines services and activities.

CA *1996 Cal. Stats., Chap. 216*
Requires foster care providers of adolescents in long-term foster care to provide pregnancy prevention information and to make sure that they receive referrals to health services upon emancipation. Requires the state to convene a working group to develop a pregnancy prevention plan.

CA *1996 Cal. Stats., Chap. 274*
Allows Santa Clara County to establish a pilot project to continue to provide children with alternatives to group home care through the development of expanded family-based services provided through "Program UPLIFT." Sets reimbursement rates and limits project to no more than 125 cases in one year.

CA *1996 Cal. Stats., Chap. 884*
Sec. 2—Requires placement of a foster child with a relative unless that would not be in the child's best interest. Prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin against a potential foster or adoptive parent or child.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 19*
Sec. 1—Consolidates definitions from the Colorado Children's Code into one statutory provision including child care, child abuse, juvenile justice, out-of-home placement, adoption, mental health, and legal matters.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 63*
Sec. 3, 5—Changes the definitions for "child placement agency," "family child care home," and "foster care home." Differentiates between certification and licensing of child placement agencies, family child care homes and foster care homes, and sets requirements for each. Requires any person receiving a child for placement, or placing a child, other than people related to the child, to obtain a license as a child placement agency. Prohibits granting a license or certificate to anyone convicted of felony child abuse or any unlawful sexual offense.

Sec. 11—Requires a comprehensive review of the state's performance audit of the licensing rules and regulations, governing procedures, and employee backgrounds for family child care homes and foster care homes.

Sec. 15—Revises the definition of "institutional abuse" to include abuse occurring in family child care homes, foster care homes and other facilities under the state licensing law.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 170*
Sec. 1—Authorizes pilot programs in five or more counties to test the utilization of child placement agencies or their alternatives. Outlines child placement agency features. Requires an external evaluation of effectiveness and a status report to the Legislature. Establishes local advisory groups of foster and group home parents to assist in design, implementation, and evaluation.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, Chap. 381 (1996)*
Sec. 304—Makes all dependent or neglected children wards of the state. Requires the agency to supervise, care for, board, and place such children, including providing medical and mental health needs.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 402*
Sec. 3, 5—Requires family foster homes to register with statewide child care association and comply with its standards. Clarifies the definition of a foster care license. Expands authority of the state agency to contract with institutions providing foster care services.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 5*
Sec. 1—Allows the Human Services Department to issue a two-year certificate of approval if the child-placing or child-caring institution or foster boarding home meets certain criteria.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 33*
Sec. 1—Requires the Human Services Department to release identifying information on licensed or certified foster parents and approved relative caregivers to any association, agency, or government entity that would benefit the foster parents or caregivers, unless they sign a confidentiality statement.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, S. 312*
Requires the court to hold a review hearing every 12 months after the original disposition decree or after a child in need of services is removed from the parent, guardian, or custodian.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1213*
Sec. 1-3—Outlines a procedure to establish and comply with state and regional budget targets for children in group care, with exceptions.

Sec. 10—Authorizes the development of a subsidized guardianship program for certain older youth.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 229*
Sec. 106 (b)—Places community-based group boarding homes providing services for juvenile offenders under the authority of the juvenile justice commissioner, and other boarding homes under the secretary's authority.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 22*
Sec. 1—Allows a parent, guardian, or other legal custodian of a child who consents to the child's voluntary commitment to participate in treatment planning.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 100*
Exempts residential child care employees serving abused children from minimum wage law.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 166*
Creates a Task Force on Children in Placement to study population characteristics, options, financing, rate structures, licensing, and evaluation. Requires an interim and a final report and an advisory group including legislative leadership and up to 15 citizen members representing stakeholders.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 301*
Allows foster care review of children in temporary custody. Requires board training and certification, inclusion of a foster parent on each board, access to certain records, and other items.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 177*
Requires notice of a petition of guardianship for children adjudicated abused and neglected to the attorney who represented the child.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 251*
Increases the membership of local foster care review boards.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 285*
Increases the types of relatives who can provide foster care without a license to a minor child.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 552*
Defines "joint guardianship" as limited guardianship granted to a caregiver, and specifies the extent of a caregiver's rights. Authorizes, under specified circumstances, joint custody or guardianship, or other long-term care short of adoption. Requires the agency to retain the right to consent to the child's adoption during the joint guardianship or to define the term of guardianship, according to the child's best interest.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 151*
Sec. 541—Establishes three regional pilot projects to develop networks of support for families with children of school-age or younger with developmental disabilities or chronic illness.

Sec. 550—Allows the department to fund scholarships for foster children who are or will be pursuing a degree.

Sec. 566—Requires state regulations defining and providing for differing levels of foster family care to enable children with special medical, psychological, and social needs to be placed in foster family care instead of more structured group care settings.

Sec. 593—Requires the development of regulations to require that all foster homes be licensed. Outlines requirements for licensure.

MI *1995 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 81*
Sec. 5—Permits a licensed child placing agency or an approved governmental unit to place a child in an adult foster care family home or small group home under certain circumstances.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 421*
Sec. 1—Allows the commissioner to issue an emergency foster care license to a relative with whom a child has been placed by court order.

Sec. 2-3—Allows a relative to petition for custody if the child's parent dies or cannot fulfill parental duties.

Sec. 6-8—Includes "relative" as a placement for a child taken into custody by a peace officer. Adds to the explanation of custody procedures the placement by a peace officer into a shelter care facility or relative's home.

MS *1996 Miss. Laws, HB 404*
Sec. 2—Requires law enforcement to investigate all reports of abuse in out-of-home settings.

NE *1996 Neb. Laws, L.B. 642*
Transfers the responsibility for federally required care reviews to the State Foster Care Review Board. Authorizes the state board to assist the department with service eligibility determinations for children in state custody.

NE *1996 Neb. Laws, L.B. 1001*
Requires relatives to receive preferential status for placing a child, when in the best interest of the child.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 353*
Sec. 4-6, 13, 15—Establishes a state program to supervise provision of foster care, recruit foster parents and contract with foster parents and child placing agencies. Requires the agency to establish rules and standards governing foster care. Establishes a foster parent grievance procedure.

Sec. 7, 8—Specifies that out-of-home placement of child shall be governed by the best interests of the child and take into account the child's preferences. Limits movement of child in foster care.

Sec. 9—Requires a background check of a foster parent or a facility before out-of-home placement. Requires assessment and medical examination of the child before out-of-home placement.

Sec. 10—Requires that the agency make an effort to place a child with relatives and with a family of the same racial or ethnic heritage.

Sec. 14—Authorizes the state agency to provide for insurance coverage of foster family homes.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 200*
Sec. 1—Requires criminal history investigations for employment applicants in any child care facility that is licensed or approved by a child-placing agency and located in a private residence. Outlines exemptions. Requires a criminal history investigation for any foster family applicant and for an adult residing in such a foster family home. Prohibits registered sex offenders from residing in a child care facility.

Sec. 3—Adds agent or employee of a public or private residential home, institution, facility, or day treatment program to the list of those responsible for a child's health or welfare.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, HB 2692*
Sec. 1116.3 A. 3.—Authorizes review boards to review any case of a juvenile alleged to be delinquent or in need of supervision held in an out-of-home placement, other than a juvenile detention center, preadjudication or predisposition for more than 90 days.

PA *1996 Pa. Laws, HB 5284*
Sec. 6,10—Makes relatives certified by the state to care for a child liable for the child's injuries. Eliminates the use of temporary, unregulated settings to place children.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 450*
Sec. 20—Facilitates placement of a child with a relative; requires only limited background checks.

Authorizes the Foster Care Review Board to participate and intervene in family court proceedings.

Requires a hearing for a child in foster care for a year, to determine permanent placement, reunification, adoption, or other long-term arrangement.

Requires a family court hearing within 35 instead of 40 days from the date of petition to remove a child. Requires noncustodial parents to be notified of the hearing. Requires that the parents be notified that the hearing could lead to termination. Clarifies the standard for removal. Requires court order to contain specific findings that reasonable efforts were made to protect child without removal.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 318*
Sec. 24, 41-42, 46—Requires preference for former foster parents of children reentering care. Clarifies that a child's foster parents have the right to be present at all hearings. Makes discretionary the preferential consideration to a relative's request for placement of a child.

WA *1996 Wash. Laws, Chap. 131*
Sec. 1—Creates a legislative children's oversight committee and an office of the family and children's ombudsman to monitor policies and programs, especially for children in state care.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 77*
Sec. 938.371—Permits disclosure of certain information, including HIV testing and disabilities, to foster homes and other placements.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 113*
Authorizes educational programs for children placed in residential facilities.

WY *1996 Wyo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 106*
Outlines considerations for out-of-state placement and court review of such placements. Reduces the time requirement to review out-of-home placements.

Termination of Parental Rights

AK *1996 Alaska Sess. Laws, Chap. 89*
Allows the court to consider incarceration sufficient grounds for termination of parental rights.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 540*
Sec. 1—Prohibits the use of a parent or legal guardian's signature on a child welfare services case plan as evidence against the parent or guardian in court. Allows the parent's or guardian's failure to cooperate with the plan as evidence in determining termination of parental rights. Requires that parents and guardians be notified of these conditions.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, P.A. 246*
Sec. 1—Defines the term "termination of parental rights."

Sec. 18—Adds new grounds for involuntary termination of parental rights, in cases where the parents of a child under 7 have not rehabilitated themselves within a reasonable time and their parental rights have previously been terminated for another child. Requires "clear and convincing evidence," rather than a preponderance to determine that the agency has made reasonable efforts to locate parents and reunify them with the child. Requires the court to make written findings concerning reunification efforts. Allows the agency to file a termination petition for any child in its custody.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 749*
Sec. 15-11-41—States that an order of disposition committing a delinquent or unruly child to the department remains in force for two years or ends sooner if the child is discharged. Allows the court to extend the duration of the order. Addresses conditions for recommending or discouraging reunification services. Requires judicial hearing when the department does not recommend reunification. Allows appointing a guardian ad litem (GAL) upon beginning termination proceedings.

Sec. 15-11-57, 15-11-81—Requires the court to review cases of continuing substance abuse, or medically verifiable deficiency, and other egregious conduct or evidence that constitute grounds for termination.

Sec. 15-11-90—Requires the court to attempt placement of the child with next of kin when no parent is available, when in the best interest of the child.

Sec. 19-8-11—Sets conditions for termination of parental rights. Requires the court to set a termination hearing no less than 30 days and no more than 60 days from notice to the parent, if adoption is in the best interest of the child.

ID *1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, HB 711*
Allows the court to terminate parental rights under certain circumstances of rape, incest, murder or incarceration.

IA *1995 Iowa Acts, Chap. 182*
Terminates parental rights in certain child abuse or neglect cases, after a determination that services would not correct the conditions that led to the abuse or neglect of a child within a reasonable period. Defers registration of a child to the adoption exchange under certain circumstances.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 302*
Allows a grandparent to keep visitation rights after termination of parental rights of the child, unless a court determines that it is in the child's best interest to end the grandparent's visitation.

ME *1995 Me. Public Laws, Chap. 623*
Allows the court to appoint a guardian for a child whose parents have not had their rights terminated, if it is in the best interests of the child.

MD *1995 Md. Laws, Chap. 608*
Authorizes a court to terminate a biological parent's rights in an independent adoption if he or she has committed a crime of violence against the other biological parent and has been sentenced to prison.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chapters 595 and 596*
Requires the permanency plan hearing to be held no later than 10 months after the abuse and neglect adjudication. Requires such hearings to be held every six months thereafter with limited exceptions. Requires the termination of parental rights hearing to be held in lieu of the next six-month review hearing in cases where the court has determined that the child is to be placed for adoption.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 151*
Requires an adoption agency, in cases where the child was born out of wedlock and no paternity was established, to request that the mother who is renouncing her parental rights, provide a sworn, written statement attesting to the putative father's identity and his last known address for the purpose of notifying him of the child's potential adoption.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 416*
Defines "egregious harm" for the purposes of termination of parental rights. Provides that the harm may have occurred in a jurisdiction other than where the termination action is venued.

MS *1996 Miss. Laws, SB 2675*
Sec. 1—Allows the family court or the county court sitting as the youth court as jurisdiction for filing and terminating parental rights.

MS *1996 Miss. Laws, HB 403*
Prohibits child care employees or volunteers from providing services if a court declared their child in need of care based on an allegation of abuse or neglect or if their parental rights were terminated.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 200*
Sec. 9—Outlines procedures for termination appeals.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 76*
Sec. 2—Allows the court to advise a parent whose parental rights have been terminated of his or her right to update medical history information with the court and the Department of Public Welfare.

Sec. 3—Defines the circumstances under which a court may terminate parental rights involuntarily.

PR *1996 Puerto Rico Laws, PC 1607*
Sec. Art. 166, 166A—Outlines grounds for termination of parental rights.

Consolidates sections from the Child Protection Law.

Sec. Art. 3, 4, 4A—Sets conditions under which the department may begin termination of parental rights proceedings. Sets timeframe for provisional termination.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 450*
Changes the requirement for a family court hearing from 40 days to within 35 days of the date of a petition to remove a child. Requires that noncustodial parents be notified of the hearing. Requires that the parents be notified that the hearing could lead to termination of parental rights. Clarifies the standard for removal to be unreasonable risk to a child's life, physical or mental health or safety that cannot be avoided without removing the child. Requires that the court order contain specific findings that reasonable efforts were made to protect the child without removal.

Requires that if a child has been in foster care for over a year, a hearing must be held to decide on a permanent placement for the child, reunification, adoption, or other long-term arrangement. Authorizes the court to hold the department in-contempt for failure to comply with a treatment plan. Allows a family court to consider a parent's refusal, on two separate occasions, to participate in a court or agency treatment program, or failure to successfully complete the program two or more times, as a presumed "condition unlikely to change" and grounds for termination of parental rights. Requires the creation of a new permanency plan if the court denies the termination plan.

SD *1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 164*
Permits the court to waive consent to adoption if in the child's best interest and the parent or putative father fails to appear at the termination hearing after receiving notice.

TN *1995 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 532*
Sec. 113—Outlines the procedures for termination of parental rights.

Sec. 117—Requires that the legal parent or guardian and the biological parents must be made parties to the adoption proceeding and their rights to the child must be terminated prior to the adoption.

Sec. 123—Authorizes the court to use an appeals-expedited schedule in cases of contested termination of parental rights and adoptions.

VT *1996 Vt. Acts, Act 161*
• *Sec.* 3—Explains the rights of fathers and procedures for termination of parental rights.

Sec. 6-7—Provides for the confidentiality of adoption records and when and to whom such records may be disclosed. Explains prohibited and permissible activities and payment procedures in connection with adoption.

Custody and Visitation

AL *1996 Ala. Acts, Act 520*
Sec. 30-3-150—Outlines provisions for joint custody.

AZ *1996 Ariz. Sess. Laws, Chap. 293*
Requires the court to set penalties against a custodial parent who violates the visitation rights of the noncustodial parent. Authorizes specific penalties.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 241*
Sec. 1—Requires that people who sign child custody evaluation reports be licensed mental health professionals.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 740*
Creates a rebuttable presumption for awarding custody to a parent or parents, rather than to a third party, except when shown that it would be in the best of interest of the child.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 954*
Outlines the custody and visitation rights of grandparents to a minor child. Allows grandparents' visitation rights when in the best interest of the child.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 146*
Sec. 1—Prohibits parties without a court order from taking a child with the intent of depriving another person or a state agency of custody of the child. Provides a "good cause" defense to custodial interference.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 198*
Sec. 3, 4—Creates a rebuttable presumption that it is not in the best interest of the child to be placed in the sole or joint custody of a family violence perpetrator. Specifies that a parent's absence or relocation due to abuse of that parent is not a factor in determining custody or visitation. Authorizes visitation only when the safety of the child and the victimized spouse can be ensured. Prohibits the court from requiring a person alleging spousal abuse to participate in mediation in custody, visitation, or divorce proceedings. Prohibits mediation unless certain conditions are met, if the mediator perceives that family violence has occurred, or if either party asserts that it occurred.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 199*
Sec. 1—Allows a protective order to include custody of minor children.

IL *1996 Ill. Laws, SB 89-488*
Prohibits visitation with an incarcerated, noncustodial parent or other relative convicted of a sexual offense against a minor. Revokes visitation rights of a nonincarcerated relative who facilitates the child's visitation with an incarcerated relative. Denies visitation to a person who has been discharged for a felony sexual offense or discharged from incarceration for a misdemeanor sex offense until after successful completion of a court-ordered treatment program.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 78*
Requires the court to immediately schedule preliminary hearings for temporary custody, visitation or child support. Requires that the court make its determination no later than 21 days from the filing date. Allows the parties to file for modification of a preliminary order. Requires the court to order visitation enforcement, and to assign remedies when the visitation rights have been unjustifiably violated.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 437*
Requires the court to consider an evident pattern of domestic violence before determining custody of a child.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1041*
Allows grandparents' visitation rights if visitation has been unreasonably denied or restricted by the parent, and when in the best interest of the child.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1092*
Sec. 6—Allows the court to grant the child's parents reasonable visitation if it determines that visitation will not cause a risk to the child's life or health when the child was removed because illegal drugs were present in the child's body.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 159*
Creates a system for case management of child custody or visitation conflicts. Permits the court to order the case manager's recommendations when repeated mediation attempts fail. Outlines qualifications and duties of a case manager.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 188*
Establishes supervised child exchange and visitation centers, specifies conditions for use, and appropriates funds. Removes the notification requirement to a noncustodial parent who has been convicted of a crime against the child.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 302*
Allows a grandparent to keep visitation rights after termination of parental rights, unless a court determines that it is in the child's best interest to end the grandparent's visitation.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 9*
Allows the court to temporarily rule on children's custody and visitation, health care, and support issues during pending divorce actions.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 10*
Redefines several terms used in civil actions relating to custody.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 14*
Prohibits an adoptive or natural parent from detaining or concealing a child from the other lawful parent or guardian. Sets penalties.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 18*
Requires the court to rule on custody or parenting time following the paternity determination.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 19*
Changes the term "visitation" to "parenting or grandparenting time." Establishes inherent rights of minors during disputed actions over their custody or support. Requires interim orders to include written notice on objecting to or modifying the order.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, Act 25*
Changes the term "visitation" to "parenting time" in all state laws. Enhances parenting time rights of the noncustodial parent by adjusting arrearages in parenting time wrongfully denied by the custodial parent. Allows the custodial parent seven days to respond to the adjustment decision.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 391*
Sec. 1-6—Requires the court to issue specific visitation orders and to provide for their enforcement, including remedies for interference. Allows the court to appoint a visitation expeditor in ongoing disputes. Outlines expeditor's duties and provides immunity from civil liability. Allows the court to order the party in noncompliance to post a bond in favor of the party whose visitation was denied to aid in recovery of incurred expenses. Allows the court to order a mandatory visitation dispute resolution.

MO *1996 Mo. Laws, SB 869*
Sec. 210.160, .842; 442.035; 452.402, .423, .490—Changes guardian ad litem (GAL) fees from a court cost to a court judgment in child custody, visitation, and support cases.

NC *1995 N.C. Sess. Laws, Chap. 591*
Requires the court to consider domestic violence as a factor for awarding or limiting a child's custody or visitation. Expands the definition of victims of domestic violence to include minor children residing in the household. Defines "familial relationship." Defines domestic violence actions. Requires that protective orders not be mutual in nature except where the court rules both parties acted as aggressors, and neither in self-defense. Requires enforcement of valid protective orders without further order of the court.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 349*
Sec. 6—Authorizes a protective order to remain in effect during the minority ages of children whose custody or visitation was the subject of the proceedings.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 389*
Mandates the court to require verification of the custody and child support status of children from a marriage in dissolution. Requires the orders to be entered in court records.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 200*
Sec. 5—Requires the court to appoint an attorney for a child if evidence of abuse or neglect is found during an action for a divorce, annulment, custody, or appointment of a guardian.

Sec. 11—Prohibits the court from placing a child in the custody of a registered sex offender or a person convicted of any crime involving domestic abuse, or if that person is married to or living with the offender.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, SB 73*
Sets procedures for establishing child visitation registries. Specifies there is no presumption in favor or against any particular custody arrangement.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, H. 3285*
Authorizes the court to order joint or divided custody if it is in the best interest of the child. Prohibits the court from banning custodial parents from moving within the state, with exceptions.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 421*
Grants equal rights to both custodial and noncustodial parents to participate in their children's school activities, and to access educational or medical records, unless prohibited by court order.

SD *1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 163*
Requires that qualified mediators be selected from a court-approved list. Requires that mediation proceedings and confidential results be inadmissible as evidence. Requires written agreements among parties and parties' review with counsel before signing. Makes agreements binding only after the court's approval. Allows mediators to report to the court when the parties are unable to reach an agreement. Prohibits mediators from persuading the court to make rulings based on their recommendations.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 593*
Defines custodian, and allows custodial property to be held or created in a minor's name. Allows transfers to be made for only one minor and allows up to two custodians for the same minor. Provides for custodial succession in cases of joint custodians.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 900*
Requires any person who is granted visitation rights to obtain permission from the custodial parent before taking a child to a facility operated by a nudist organization.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 1046*
Grants the court broad discretion in determining custody. Creates a presumption that joint custody is in the best interest of a child when parents agree to joint custody and there is no evidence against it. Allows the court to order an investigation to determine whether joint custody is appropriate.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 150*
Allows suspension of an obligor's driver's license for failing to comply with court-ordered visitation.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 255*
Establishes a pilot program for enforcing visitation orders, and directs the judicial council to establish rules. Allows private mediation for conflict resolution.

VT *1996 Vt. Acts, Act 145*
Sec. 6—Allows court orders regarding the transfer of legal custody, guardianship, or residual parental rights to be reviewed more frequently for young children.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 38*
Grants rights to petition for visitation to grandparents and stepparents, if one or both parents of a minor child are deceased, and when it is in the best interests of the child. Allows the court to enforce a visitation order.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 68*
Specifies conditions under which grandparents, great-grandparents, stepparents, and other third parties may petition for visitation with a minor child. Allows for enforcement when visitation privileges have been granted.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 70*
Outlines factors to be considered by the court when a custodial parent plans to move with, or remove, a child after divorce. Requires notice to a noncustodial parent to include the date, location and duration of the move or removal of the child. Allows the noncustodial parent to file a motion to prohibit the child's removal or to modify legal custody. Allows a presumption in favor of the custodial parent unless shown to be unreasonable or not in the best interest of the child.

Domestic Law and Miscellaneous

AL *1996 Ala. Acts, Act 527*
Sec. 305A-3—Sets penalties for violating a restraining order in domestic violence cases.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, Act 202*
Sec. 7-9—Exempts temporary guardians from civil liability for damages caused by their unemancipated minors. Authorizes a probate court to transfer jurisdiction over a minor's guardianship when the youngster moves to a different probate district.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, P.A. 228*
Authorizes the court to issue criminal restraining orders against people convicted of certain criminal or sexual assaults against children and other household members, and when it is in the best interest of the victim and the public.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, P.A. 246*
Sec. 24—Allows consideration of the existence and impact of family violence in any child abuse investigation. Allows assistance to family members in obtaining protection from family violence.

Sec. 25—Creates a family violence coordinating council to increase awareness and understanding of family violence and reduce its incidence. Outlines membership and duties.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, Chap. 531 (1996)*
Establishes a Parenting Education Course to minimize harmful effects to children of litigation and requires divorcing parents of minors under age 17 to participate. Requires parties in cases of domestic violence to attend a similar, more intensive course.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 167*
Sec. 1-3—Requires the departments of health and human services to establish prevention and treatment programs for domestic and sexual violence. Requires a plan to transfer these programs from the judiciary to the executive branch.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 198*
Sec. 3-4—Creates a rebuttable presumption that it is not in the best interest of the child to be placed in the sole or joint custody of a family violence perpetrator. Specifies that a parent's absence or relocation due to abuse of that parent is not a factor in determining custody or visitation. Authorizes visitation only upon a finding that the safety of the child and the victimized spouse can be ensured. Prohibits the court from requiring the person alleging spousal abuse to participate in mediation in custody, visitation, or divorce proceedings. Prohibits mediation unless certain conditions are met, if the mediator perceives that family violence has occurred, or if either party asserts that it occurred.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 199*
Sec. 1—Allows a protective order in certain domestic abuse cases to be extended up to three years from the date when the original order was granted. Allows the order to include custody of minor children.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 95*
Allows the court to order marriage counseling for divorcing parents with minor children. Prohibits the court from requiring joint counseling without both parties' consent.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 437*
Redefines the term "protective order." Sets filing fees for protective order petitions. Prohibits a court from ordering joint counseling for parents of an unemancipated minor under age 18 without both parents' consent when evidence of domestic violence exists. Allows a parent to seek a protective order against the other party after a final decree of paternity.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1195*
Requires the court to determine if parties to a domestic relations proceeding must participate in mediation to resolve conflicts outside of court, and allows the court to order participation any time before granting the final decree.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 208*
Requires prosecution and punishment for a violation of a protective order. Authorizes a parent or adult residing with a minor to apply for a relief order on behalf of the child under the Protection from Abuse Act, including ex parte orders. Expands immunity for law enforcement agencies and employees to handle protective orders. Removes docket fees for establishing a protective order.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 234*
Makes permanent a fee for the abuse protection fund for victims of domestic violence and their children. Specifies certain accounting and investment procedures.

ME *1995 Me. Public Laws, Chap. 650*
Allows juveniles to bring a harassment action through a representative.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 151*
Sec. 614—Establishes a pilot program in two counties providing public counsel to represent indigent people in children-family law cases. Requires a report to the Legislature detailing the results compared with using private counsels.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 7*
Establishes family counseling services through circuit court. Allows the court to refer divorcing families for counseling. Requires confidentiality of communications between counselor and the person counseled, with exceptions. Prohibits counseling communications from appearing as evidence during proceedings, but requires a report of recommendations to be submitted to the court.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 10*
Makes violators of personal protective orders punishable by fine or imprisonment and subject to contempt of court.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 15*
Specifies conditions when a peace officer may arrest an individual without first obtaining a warrant, such as removing a minor child from the legal custodian or violating a protective order.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 455*
Authorizes parents to appoint designated parents to care for a minor child for up to one year when the parent is unable to do so. Allows the parent to indicate the existence of a designated parent on a driver's license or an identification card. Empowers designated parents to care for a child as specified in a written agreement, except consent to marriage or adoption. Authorizes state visits and supervision for a child living in a designated parent's home for 30 days or more.

MO *1996 Mo. Laws, SB 869*
Sec. 57.955; 455.205; 487.170; 514.335—Allows the court, and not the Legislature, to determine court costs for family and children-related matters.

NC *1995 N.C. Sess. Laws, Chap. 591*
Requires the court to consider domestic violence as a factor for awarding or limiting a child's custody or visitation. Expands the definition of victims of domestic violence to include minor children residing in the household. Defines "familial relationship." Defines domestic violence actions. Prohibits that protective orders be mutual, except where the court rules both parties acted as aggressors and neither in self-defense. Requires enforcement of valid protective orders without further order of the court.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 349*
Sec. 1—Requires record sharing between the supreme, criminal, and family courts when they have concurrent jurisdiction over protection order proceedings.

Sec. 3—Requires that the use of uniform protection orders and protection order forms be compatible with the statewide automated registry.

Sec. 6—Defines the scope of a protection order under divorce, separation, or annulment proceedings and authorizes the order to remain in effect during the minority ages of children whose custody or visitation was the subject of the proceedings.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 388*
Allows confidentiality of either party's address in family violence proceedings upon a finding that disclosure would increase the risk of violence.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 429*
Requires the court to deliver a protective order to police under specified circumstances. Requires the officer to provide the court with confirmation of service, and provide notification of the date and time of such service for the statewide computer registry on protection orders and arrest warrants.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 443*
Sec. 1(b)—Allows the supreme court appellate division to enter into an agreement with a qualified attorney to serve as law guardian for the family court, if it determines that a county panel is insufficient to appropriate such services. Allows the attorney to be reimbursed for services on a cost basis.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, SB 73*
Requires divorcing parents of minor children to attend educational programs before granting a decree.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 200*
Sec. 2—Requires judges with juvenile or domestic docket responsibility to attend training related to juvenile law, child abuse, neglect, and domestic abuse.

Sec. 17—Adds a representative of the Oklahoma Coalition on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault to the Child Abuse Training and Coordination Council.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 370*
Allows a court to deny or limit either or both parent's share of an interstate decedent's estate proceeds, if the court determines that during the decedent's minority the parent failed to reasonably support the decedent, or to provide for the needs of the decedent.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 593*
Defines custodian, and allows custodial property to be held or created in a minor's name. Allows transfers to be made for only one minor and allows up to two custodians for the same minor. Provides for custodial succession in cases of joint custodians.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 684*
Allows court personnel with the authority to issue an arrest warrant to issue a protection order when a judge is not available. Specifies that a protection order can include protection of children. Allows a police officer to exercise best judgment in determining whether to arrest all, any, or none of the parties and to transport the victim to obtain an arrest warrant.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 734*
Permits ordering a substance abusive perpetrator of domestic violence, or one who violates a protective order, to attend counseling. Makes failure to comply punishable by contempt.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 835*
Encourages health care practitioners to make a nonidentifying monthly report to the state on incidents of domestic abuse.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 244*
States that protective orders issued by outside jurisdictions are enforceable in the state if they meet certain requirements. Requires the petitioner's consent before dropping the criminal provisions of a protective order.

VT *1996 Vt. Acts, Act 145*
Defines emancipated minor and outlines procedures.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 109*
Defines what constitutes a willful violation of a protective order. Sets penalties.

WY *1996 Wyo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 91*
Increases penalties for assault or battery committed by a household member against any other household member.

GENERAL CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Administration/Coordination/Policy

AZ *1996 Ariz. Sess. Laws, Chap. 150*
Outlines additional duties of the Joint Legislative Committee on Children and Family Services to include the status and placement of abuse and neglect reports and to make recommendations to selected legislative leaders and committees.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 471*
Increases the number of counties from five to six that can participate in a five-year children's services pilot program to transfer funding for specific services into a single, blended children and family services fund. Extends program duration to July 1, 2002.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 532*
Specifies that any independent evaluation—funded with nonstate funds—of the pilot program to decategorize certain children and family funding streams be submitted to the Legislature 12 months following the program's completion.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 19*
Sec. 1—Consolidates definitions from the "Colorado Children's Code" into one statutory provision, including child care, child abuse, juvenile justice, out-of-home placement, adoption, mental health, and legal matters.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 230*
Sec. 1-4—Requires the state auditor to conduct programmatic reviews of all state prevention and intervention programs. Specifies procedures for sharing information with legislative committees, agencies, and the governor.

Sec. 6 (19-1-301)—Authorizes state agencies and the judicial department to exchange certain information with each other and school personnel, requires a consent form for voluntary exchange and specifies procedures in involuntary cases. Consolidates all records provisions in the children's code.

Sec. 6 (19-1-311)—Creates an information management committee to develop a legislative proposal to implement plans for a cross-agency, centralized, integrated data base system to track children receiving state services.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, P.A. 45*
Requires the governor to proclaim the second Sunday in October as "National Children's Day," with suitable exercises and observances.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, P.A. 246*
Sec. 25—Creates a family violence coordinating council to increase awareness and understanding of family violence and reduce its incidence. Outlines membership and duties.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 403*
Creates separate departments for health, children and family services and creates two task forces to recommend implementation options for the reorganization of state agencies.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 601*
Sec. 2—Creates the Office of School Readiness to administer prekindergarten, child care, and development programs, child care regulations, child food programs, and accompanying federal funding. Transfers authority over these programs from the departments of human resources and education. Requires the office to assist local governments with these programs.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 287*
Sec. 4 (35)—Requires the departments of education, human services, and health to develop interagency agreements for services to children in special education and through school-based health centers. Outlines provisions to be included in the agreements.

Sec. 8 (5)—Authorizes four state agencies to create decategorized service accounts to serve multiproblem children and youth. Requires a joint report to the Legislature on this pilot project.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1084*
Sec. 7—Requires coordination of the state family support program for people with disabilities and their families with juvenile justice, child welfare, education, and other programs.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1156*
Authorizes the creation of county multidisciplinary community services teams to share information and plan services for families and individuals. Specifies procedures for the exchange of confidential information and penalties for noncompliance.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1213*
Sec. 10—Authorizes the state agency to develop rules to implement outcome-based child welfare services pilot projects after input from providers. Appropriates funds to develop a performance-based monitoring program to evaluate and improve outcomes for children and families.

Sec. 23—Creates a human services restructuring task force to develop a proposal to create new federal, state, and local partnerships to improve services, eliminate duplication, and review the state agency's proposals for changes.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 197*
Mandates a study of the state health and human service delivery system including recommendations for improvements in efficiency, consolidation of funding streams, reinvesting in community-based services, service delivery and single entry points for services.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 430*
Authorizes access by local governments and other states to confidential social services records in order to administer social services programs.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 642*
Authorizes Baltimore to create an authority to use existing facilities for enrichment programs for children.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 151*
Sec. 665—Establishes a special interagency state commission to study the location of community-based human service facilities. Requires a report to the Legislature by December 31, 1996.

NE *1996 Neb. Laws, L.B. 1044*
Consolidates and transfers the functions and responsibilities of five state agencies into three new ones. Requires the agency heads to report to the governor and Legislature regarding implementation of the redesign of state education, human and juvenile services.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, HB 177*
Sec. 5101.10—Allows the director of Human Services to use state funds to match federal funds for personnel training, education, and research in human services and service delivery from public or private entities. Allows the director to make grants.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 200*
Sec. 17—Adds a representative of the Oklahoma Coalition on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault to the Child Abuse Training and Coordination Council.

PR *1996 Puerto Rico Laws, PS 507*
Establishes a consumer advisory committee to set up a voluntary television classification system to advise viewers of violence or other content that could negatively affect youth.

PR *1996 Puerto Rico Laws, PS 1368*
Designates the fourth Tuesday of every August as the "Day of No Television Violence."

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 747*
Sec. 1-4—Creates a statewide public awareness campaign about shaken baby syndrome. Requires the development of free information and instructional material for parents or guardians of newborns, child welfare agencies, and others.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 1062*
Establishes planning principles for state agencies in implementing federal block grants. Requires citizen input, minimizing harm to current programs and clients, and annual reporting on devolution activities to seven relevant legislative committees.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 1079*
Sec. 3, 183—Creates the Department of Children's Services to integrate child welfare, juvenile justice, and certain functions from health, education, and mental health agencies to improve services to children in or at-risk of state custody. Creates a joint legislative committee to oversee implementation. Extends the duration of the Joint Select Committee on Children and Youth.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, H.J.R. 10*
Creates a group of legislators to recommend appropriations for collaborative programs for children and youth at risk.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 136*
Outlines a process for a community-based collaborative service delivery system for children and youth at risk. Establishes a process for funding and requires that plans be performance based.

WA *1996 Wash. Laws, Chap. 131*
Sec. 1—Creates a legislative children's oversight committee and an office of the family and children's ombudsman to monitor policies and programs, especially for children in state care.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 64*
Sec. 1-6—Allows information sharing between the county Department of Social Services, developmental disabilities services units, or service contractors without the informed consent of the client.

Family Support

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 62*
Allows judicial districts to establish parent education programs on the effect of divorce on children.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, Act 262*
Sec. 7—Authorizes a business tax credit of 40 percent of expenses for parent education classes. Makes the credit available only after the child care tax credit has been exhausted. Requires the application for the tax credit to include program costs and the number of participants. Requires the parent education classes to provide child development and referral information.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, Chap. 531 (1996)*
Establishes a Parenting Education Course to minimize harmful effects to children of litigation and requires divorcing parents of minors under age 17 to participate. Requires parties in cases of domestic violence to attend a similar, more intensive course.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 175*
Sec. 73—Requires the state to contract for support services for families participating in subsidized child care, including transportation, child development programs, child nutrition, parent training, and family counseling activities. Limits the requirement to available funding.

Sec. 74—Requires the state, upon request, to provide technical assistance to parents and child care providers about serving children with disabilities.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 402*
Sec. 16—Establishes a commission on responsible fatherhood. Defines membership and duties, including a report to the governor and Legislature.

ME *1995 Me. Public Laws,*
Prohibits a member of the regional site board governing the Child Development Services System for children with disabilities from deriving revenue for work performed for the system. Authorizes the board to employ a staff professional therapist under certain circumstances and determine the associated costs. Establishes a provider advisory board. Requires a review of mandated services. Requires the Interdepartmental Coordinating Council for Early Intervention to advise the Joint Education and Cultural Affairs Committee in the Legislature.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 323*
Expands the Massachusetts Family Network parent outreach programs for families of children ages one to three to include families with school-age children.

OH *1995 Ohio Laws, HB 117*
Establishes the Early Start Program to provide services to children under age 3 who are at significant developmental risk. Authorizes health and child welfare funds for the program. Establishes rule making procedures and a county distribution formula.

Sec. 45.03—Sets aside state preschool funds for the Cincinnati Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, SB 73*
Requires divorcing parents of minor children to attend educational programs before granting a decree.

JUVENILE JUSTICE

Administration/Organization

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 19*

Sec. 1—Consolidates definitions from the Colorado Children's Code into one statutory provision including child care, child abuse, juvenile justice, out-of-home placement, adoption, mental health, and legal matters.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 230*

Sec. 1-4—Requires the state auditor to conduct programmatic reviews of all state prevention and intervention programs and specifies procedures for reporting to appropriate legislative committees, state agencies, and the governor.

Sec. 6 (19-1-311)—Creates an information management committee to develop a legislative proposal to implement plans for a cross-agency, centralized integrated data base system to track children receiving state services.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 283*

Sec. 19-2-203—Creates the Division of Youth Corrections and describes responsibilities.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 382*

Sec. 1—Requires the sheriff's office and the Department of Juvenile Justice to participate in a juvenile assessment center or with the district school board in a suspension program.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 398*

Sec. 1 (2)—Authorizes the governor and legislative leaders to appoint three members each to the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board. Describes terms of board members, and requires an annual report. Allows certain first time nonviolent juvenile offenders to be sanctioned by a Restorative Justice Center.

Sec. 13 (14)—Requires expeditious siting of, acquisition of land for, and construction of state juvenile justice facilities.

Sec. 13 (15)(a) and (b)—Requires the Department of Juvenile Justice to erect facilities to accommodate children committed to the department. Allows the department to enter into lease-purchase agreements to provide facilities to house committed youths.

Sec. 40 (12)—Requires the Department of Juvenile Justice to collect and report cost data for each program operated or contracted by the department and to develop a cost-benefit model and apply it to each commitment program.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, SB 156*

Sec. 1-16—Requires the Legislature to study public safety laws, including juvenile justice, prevention, intervention, and substance abuse on an eight-year cycle. Increases the membership in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Information Systems Council, and requires it to coordinate data among public safety agencies. Outlines management principles.

Sec. 41—Authorizes the state to develop a statewide criminal street gang data base to facilitate the exchange of information.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 229*

Sec. 58 (a)—Requires the Kansas Juvenile Offender Information system to be operational and functional on or before July 1, 1997, unless extended by official action.

Sec. 132—Requires the governor to appoint a juvenile justice commissioner who may appoint staff assistants and employees.

Sec. 134 (b) and (h)—Requires the Kansas Youth Authority to submit a transitional plan, which includes transferring state agencies' powers and duties concerning juvenile offenders to the authority. Permits the youth authority to appoint an advisory youth council.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 234*
Creates the youth trust fund for grants on juvenile justice reform including prevention and treatment and to further state local partnerships.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 197*
Mandates a study of the state health and human service delivery system including recommendations for improvements in efficiency, consolidation of funding streams, reinvesting in community-based services, service delivery, and single entry points for services.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 358*
Sec. 1—Requires the Department of Juvenile Justice commissioner to develop and administer programs regarding youthful offenders and children at risk.

Sec. 64 (2)—Establishes a division to provide educational programs to incarcerated youth including those ordered to remain in juvenile detention.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 200*
Sec. 38—Requires the courts to provide resources to conduct juvenile trials.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 408*
Sec. 6, Art. 2—Allows local law enforcement agencies to hire officers to replace those reassigned to investigate and prevent juvenile crime.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 440*
Sec. 50 Art. 1—Requires community corrections agencies that operate secure juvenile detention facilities to take fingerprints, photographs, and other identification data. Includes offenders' known aliases or street names in the reporting requirements.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, HB 2692*
Sec. 7302-8.1 E.—Allows the state to enter into contracts with private service providers to implement the juvenile restitution program. Permits the department to require the service provider to pay restitution directly to the victim.

PR *1996 Puerto Rico Laws, PC 1908*
Expands programs for juvenile justice and delinquency prevention.

PR *1996 Puerto Rico Laws, PS 1331*
Changes membership of the consulting council on juvenile justice.

RI *1995 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chapters 95-279 and 95-0346*
Sec. 1 (I)—Establishes a juvenile hearing board in the city of Woonsocket to hear all cases referred by the juvenile division of the police department. Describes board membership and duties.

RI *1996 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 38*
Sec. 1 (I) (IV)—Establishes a juvenile hearing board in the town of Westerly to hear cases referred by the juvenile division of the police department. Defines duties of the board.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 982*
Sec. 2—Requires the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth to review and report on nationally recognized restitution and mentoring programs.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 943*
Sec. 1—Requires a substitute juvenile judge to possess all of the qualifications of a sitting judge.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 1044*
Sec. 1 (2)—Requires the court security committee to assess existing facilities to determine space to provide secure waiting areas.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 1079*
Sec. 3, 183—Creates the Department of Children's Services to integrate child welfare, juvenile justice, and certain functions from health, education, and mental health agencies to improve services to children in or at risk of state custody. Creates a joint legislative committee to oversee implementation. Extends the duration of the Joint Select Committee on Children and Youth.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 1*
Sec. 24—Establishes a state juvenile court and its responsibilities.

Sec. 30—Explains the appointment and terms of juvenile court judges.

Sec. 32—Establishes a Board of Juvenile Court Judges and establishes responsibilities and procedures.

Sec. 86—Creates the position of director for the Office of Guardian Ad Litem under the direct supervision of the Judicial Council. Describes the director's duties.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 262*
Establishes a Utah Juvenile Justice Task Force. Appropriates funds and designates responsibilities.

VT *1996 Vt. Acts, Act 145*
Sec. 4—Creates a joint legislative committee to study the youthful offender system.

WA *1996 Wash. Laws, Chap. 131*
Sec. 1—Creates a legislative children's oversight committee and an office of the family and children's ombudsman to monitor policies and programs, especially for children in state care.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 27*
Sec. 9426 (19t)—Transfers the responsibilities for administering juvenile corrections, intensive supervision, and aftercare from the Department of Health and Social Services to the Department of Corrections.

Repeals the youthful offender program and creates the serious juvenile offender program for youth 14 years or older who meet certain criteria and have been adjudicated for a specific serious offense, and youth 10 years of age or older who have been adjudicated for specific homicide offenses.

Dispositions/Penalties/Offenses

AL *1996 Ala. Acts, Act 538*
Sec. 12-15-11.1—Allows the court to order the parents or guardian of a delinquent child to ensure that the child complies with the terms of his or her probation. Requires a parent who fails to comply to be held in-contempt and fined up to $300 and imprisoned up to 30 days, or both.

AL *1996 Ala. Acts, Act 570*
Sec. 12-15-71 (a), (e)—Prohibits a child found in need of supervision from being committed to or placed in an institution or facility for delinquent children, unless the child is found to be delinquent or is not amenable to treatment or rehabilitation.

AL *1996 Ala. Acts, Act 769*
Sec. 12-15-71 (a) and (b)—Allows the court to order certain disposition if a child is found to be dependent. Requires that the child not be committed to or confined in an institution unless he or she is found to be delinquent.

Sec. 12-15-71 (k)—Allows the court to order a delinquent child to attend an alternative school if a juvenile detention facility, boot camp, or the Department of Youth Services has no space.

AK *1996 Alaska Sess. Laws, Chap. 59*
Sec. 46—Rearranges chapters dealing with children in need of care and delinquents. Redefines the purpose of delinquency law to emphasize public protection, early intervention by imposing a certain and swift sanction for minor offenses and to include family counseling.

Sec. 47.12.120—Outlines dispositional options including time limits and age considerations in delinquency proceedings. Requires the court to order restitution.

Sec. 47.12.140—Outlines issues for the court to consider in making dispositional orders including public interest, age, offense seriousness, public protection, deterrence, and rehabilitation. Requires the least restrictive placement.

AK *1996 Alaska Sess. Laws, Chap. 144*
Allows the court to order a minor's parent to make restitution. Prohibits ordering parental restitution if the parent has reported the child as missing or run away.

AZ *1996 Ariz. Sess. Laws, Chap. 313*
Sec. 1—Authorizes the juvenile hearing officer, commissioner or superior court judge to place a juvenile on probation, order the juvenile and his or her parents to pay restitution, or reprimand the juvenile after finding that the juvenile committed a violation.

Sec. 6—Allows the department to suspend or refuse to issue a license or driving privilege to a juvenile under age 18 under certain circumstances.

AZ *1996 Ariz. Sess. Laws, Chap. 361*
Sec. 1—Allows the juvenile hearing officer, commissioner or judge, after finding that a child committed criminal damage or a violation, to suspend driving privileges until age 18.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 193*
Sec. 1 (m)—Authorizes the court to sentence a juvenile directly to a regimented training program as a condition for probation in lieu of detention. Requires the Department of Human Services and the Judicial Department to establish selection guidelines.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 280*
Sec. 5—Requires sex offender registration. Authorizes county jail personnel to require sex offenders to sign notice that they have been informed of their duty to register.

Establishes a mandatory 45-day minimum sentence for adjudicated juveniles who fail to register as sex offenders, and an out-of-home placement for at least one year for adjudicated juveniles guilty of a Class 6 felony offense for failure to register.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 281*
Authorizes the court to sentence a juvenile to alternative programs. Allows the court to sentence a juvenile age 12 or older to detention if the juvenile fails to make satisfactory progress in such programs, or if the court finds that an alternative sentence would be contrary to the community interest.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 283*
Sec. 19-2-309 (2)(a)—Requires the establishment of selection guidelines for juveniles sentenced to the regimented juvenile training program. Requires that juveniles with extensive criminal histories not be considered appropriate for the program.

Sec. 17-1-104.7 (1)—Requires the executive director of the corrections department to develop a management plan for housing juvenile inmates so that they are segregated from the adult inmates.

Sec. 19-2-113 (1) and (2)—Requires a parent, guardian, or legal custodian to attend all juvenile proceedings. Allows the court to impose contempt sanctions against the parent, guardian, or legal custodian for failure to attend such proceedings, unless the legal custodian is a county or state agency. Allows a juvenile's treatment plan to include the requirements imposed on the parent.

Sec. 19-2-516 (4)(a)(III)—Includes in the definition of aggravated juvenile offender an act that constitutes felonious unlawful sexual behavior, incest, or aggravated incest.

Sec. 19-2-601 (5)(a)(I)—Requires the court to commit an aggravated juvenile offender to the Human Services Department for certain felony-level offenses.

Sec. 19-2-704—Allows the district attorney to allow a juvenile to participate in a diversion program in lieu of a petition filed, an adjudicatory trial, or a delinquency adjudication.

Sec. 19-1-103 (40.5)—Defines "determinate period" to mean that the human services department may not transfer legal or physical custody of a juvenile until she or he has completed the commitment period imposed by the court, unless otherwise ordered by the court, or to place the juvenile on parole.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, Chap. 418 (1996)*
Sec. 1—Includes certain motor vehicle offenses as juvenile offenses.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, Chap. 445 (1996)*
Sec. 1 (g)—Prohibits a child adjudicated delinquent for certain charges from receiving a temporary instruction permit or operator's license until his or her 17th birthday or one year from the adjudication date, whichever is later.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, Chap. 597 (1996)*
Sec. 1—Remands youth age 16 or older who are not amenable to rehabilitation, or who are charged with a Superior Court offense to the Department of Corrections if held in default of bail.

Sec. 2 (b)—Requires that when a child under age 16 is sentenced to incarceration, such sentence shall be served in a juvenile facility and the child will remain in custody of the Division of Youth Rehabilitative Services. Requires the child to be transferred to the Department of Corrections to serve the remaining portion of the sentence when she or he reaches age 16.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, SB 156*
Sec. 33-40—Includes membership in a criminal street gang as a consideration in placement. Defines criminal street gang and provides for sentencing enhancements. Makes criminal street gang recruitment a felony and includes it under forfeiture provisions.

Sec. 42—Allows a building or site that is used for criminal street gang activity to be declared a public nuisance.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 234*
Sec. 1.f.—Requires the state attorney to file information if an offense involves motor vehicle theft or carjacking, and the child caused serious bodily injury to or the death of a person who was not involved in the offense.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 398*
Sec. 2 (11)—Defines a child eligible for an intensive residential treatment program for offenders under 13 years old as one who committed a delinquent act or violated the law, is less than 13 years old at the time of the disposition, and meets certain criteria.

Sec. 2 (62)—Defines serious or habitual juvenile offender as a child who committed a delinquent act or violated the law; is at least 13 years old at the time of the disposition; and either was adjudicated for a certain offense, was committed at least twice to a delinquency commitment program, or currently is committed for a felony offense and transferred from a moderate- or high-risk residential commitment placement.

Expands the criteria for admission to an intensive residential treatment program. Makes the minimum age 13. Expands the criteria for admission by a serious and habitual juvenile offender to a maximum-risk residential program.

Sec. 5—Requires that when a child is placed into secure or nonsecure detention or other placement pursuant to a court order, the order must include specific instructions regarding the release of the child unless such requirements have been met or a continuance order granted.

Sec. 5 (5)(d)—Requires the court to conduct a hearing to determine the need for continued detention or further proceedings.

Sec. 5 (10)(a)2.—Requires placement in detention for all adjudicated children awaiting placement in a residential commitment program. Allows electronic monitoring of children in home detention or nonsecure detention.

Sec. 5 (10)(b)—Requires that a child placed in home or nonsecure detention with or without electronic monitoring while awaiting placement may be held in secure detention for five days for violating the detention or electronic monitoring agreement.

Sec. 32 (1)—Authorizes the court to direct the least intrusive and least restrictive disposition if it finds that services and treatment have not been provided or used by a child or family.

Sec. 32 (2) (a), (d)—Authorizes the court to order that a child be placed under supervision if a child is adjudicated to be in need of services. Allows the court also to order the child and parent or guardian to community service.

Sec. 32 (8)—Requires participation and cooperation of the family, parent, guardian, and child with court-ordered services, treatment, or community service. Allows the court to use its contempt power to enforce its order.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 741*
Sec. 1—Defines designated felony act to include certain offenses committed by a person 13 to 17 years old, a second or subsequent delinquency adjudication and an offense within the exclusive superior court jurisdiction that is transferred to the juvenile court for adjudication.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 749*
Sec. 15-11-41—States that an order of disposition committing a delinquent or unruly child to the department remains in force for two years or sooner if the child is discharged. Allows the court to extend the duration.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 863*
Sec. 1—Limits the use of a juvenile disposition and evidence introduced in a juvenile court hearing to delinquency proceedings and felony sentencing and to establish bail and plea negotiations.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 875*
Sec. 5(b)—Allows the court to impose sanctions when a parent, guardian, or other custodian willfully violates a court order directed to them. Lists penalties including restitution, fines, reimbursement for detention costs, community service, required supervision, and control of the child.

ID *1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, HB 754*
Establishes adjudication procedures for juveniles who use or are under the influence of a controlled substance.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, S. 60*
Sec. 3—Allows the juvenile court to suspend driving privileges for criminal mischief that involves graffiti. Allows the court to rescind the suspension if the child removes or paints over the graffiti or makes other restitution.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, S. 312*
Requires the court to hold a review hearing every 12 months after the original disposition decree date or after a child in need of services is removed from the child's parent, guardian, or custodian.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 1365*
Sec. 1-7—Requires registration for juvenile sex offenders.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 229*
Sec. 66 (a), (d)—Authorizes the court to adopt a policy and establish guidelines for an immediate intervention program which allows a juvenile to avoid prosecution as a juvenile offender. Allows the court to require a juvenile offender's parent or guardian to participate in such a program.

Sec. 2—Defines the goal of the juvenile justice code to include public safety, accountability, and improving the ability of juveniles to live more productively.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 185*
Sec. 1 (a)—Expands the definition of escape from custody to include those held in custody and charged or adjudicated as juvenile offenders whereby the act, if committed by an adult, would constitute a misdemeanor.

Sec. 2 (a) and (b)—Expands the definition of aggravated escape to include a person charged or convicted of a felony, charged or adjudicated as a juvenile offender, whereby the act, if committed by an adult, would be a felony.

Sec. 3 (a)—Expands the definition of aiding an escape to include assisting another who is charged or adjudicated with a misdemeanor or felony.

Sec. 4 (a)(2)—Adds criteria for determining whether to place a juvenile in a juvenile detention facility.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 358*
Sec. 41 (1)—Requires that no child's parents or guardian may be ordered to make restitution unless the court notified them of the hearing, provided an opportunity to be heard, and found that the person's failure to exercise reasonable supervision was a substantial factor in the child's delinquency.

Sec. 42 (1)—Requires a juvenile convicted or adjudged delinquent of three or more offenses to be retained under the district court until the child reaches age 18. Requires that the court not retain jurisdiction for more than one year if the juvenile is convicted or adjudged of a third or subsequent misdemeanor after reaching age 17-and-a-half.

Sec. 65 (1) (a) 3.—Includes in the definition of "state agency children" those children committed to or in the Department of Juvenile Justice's custody, except for children placed in a juvenile detention facility or jail.

Allows a judge to commit a juvenile offender age 13 or older to a juvenile correctional facility if the offender previously was adjudged as a juvenile offender.

Sec. 81 (b)(1)(B), (C)—Authorizes the court to order a juvenile offender's parents to participate in parenting classes. Allows the court to order the juvenile offender to successfully participate in an education program including placement in an alternative program.

Sec. 81 (f)—Authorizes a court to order a juvenile offender to submit to and complete an alcohol and drug evaluation program under certain circumstances. Allows the court to require the offender's parent or guardian to attend such program.

ME *1995 Me. Public Laws, Chap. 690*
Sec. 1—Allows the Department of Corrections to provide, to certain agencies, a copy of the judgment and commitment of a juvenile who is adjudicated of gross sexual assault.

Sec. 4—Authorizes the court to order a juvenile adjudicated of gross sexual assault to undergo a diagnostic evaluation.

Sec. 6—Authorizes the court to require a juvenile to make restitution to a victim of gross sexual assault.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 610*
Requires the suspension of driving privileges for drinking or possessing intoxicating beverages on school premises.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 200*
Sec. 1-2—Defines "youthful offender." Outlines court procedures for processing a youthful offender.

Sec. 5—Outlines dispositional options for delinquency and youthful offenders. Establishes dual sentencing in the adult and juvenile systems, requires a sentencing hearing for youthful offenders, and specifies sentencing considerations. Allows the court to order parents to pay for the costs of care.

Sec. 11—Outlines options for pretrial detention.

Sec. 14-15—Establishes sentences for murder including life without parole. Establishes automatic transfer.

Sec. 13, 17, 26—Allows youthful offenders to be sentenced to the juvenile system until age 21. Makes juveniles who escape subject to a warrant.

Sec. 36—Creates a mandatory prison sentence for assaulting a child to force participation in a criminal conspiracy including a street gang.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 408*
Sec. 1 Art. 6—Includes misdemeanor offenses and exceptions to the definition of juvenile petty offender or offense. Excludes major and adult court traffic offenses, domestic assault, contempt of court, and dangerous weapons offenses in the definition of petty offenses.

Sec. 7 Art. 6—Allows the continued detention of a child in an adult detention facility outside of a standard metropolitan statistical area county under certain circumstances.

MO *1996 Mo. Laws, HB 1301 and 1298*
Sec. 8, 11—Makes assault on school property a crime. Allows the court to order a child who is adjudicated for a nonviolent crime and is 14 years or older to work for an employer at minimum wage in order to pay restitution.

MO *1996 Mo. Laws, SB 489*
Sec. 1.1, 2.—Allows the court to order a child age 14 or older and adjudicated for a nonviolent crime to work for any employer, at a rate not to exceed minimum wage, to make restitution for the damage or loss caused. Requires that the child not be considered an employee.

MT *1995 Mont. Laws, HB 380*
Sec. 1-7—Establishes extended jurisdiction for certain juvenile offenders. Allows youths to be sentenced as both juveniles and adults with the adult sentence suspended if the youth conforms to conditions of the juvenile disposition.

Sec. 8—Requires the sentencing judge to consider recommendations from the youth placement committee in making placement decisions.

MT *1995 Mont. Laws, HB 540*
Sec. 5—Adds community youth court programs to the list of placement options for youth alleged to be delinquent.

Sec. 6, 8—Allows the court to order restitution for contributing to a child's delinquency or need for supervision.

NC *1996 N.C. Sess. Laws, Chap. 609*
Sec. 2 (c)—Prohibits commitment of a delinquent juvenile for a time period in excess of the maximum imprisonment term for that an adult could be sentenced for the same offense. Allows a juvenile committed only for an offense that would be a Class 3 misdemeanor if committed by an adult to be assigned to a local detention home.

NM *1996 N.M. Laws, Chap. 85*
Sec. 1—Changes the definition of serious youthful offender to include individuals age 15 to 18 years old who are charged with and indicted for first degree murder. Lowers the age of youthful offender to include a delinquent child subject to adult or juvenile sanctions who is 14 to 18 years old at the time of the act and adjudicated for certain offenses.

Sec. 4—Requires a child adjudicated delinquent for graffiti to perform community service. Determines that failure to do so will result in publication in a local newspaper of the name and address of the child's parent or guardian.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 76*
Sec. 1—Requires the court to order youthful offenders convicted of certain sex offenses to take a test for immunodeficiency (HIV), if requested by the victim.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 398*
Makes a parent and legal guardian of a minor between the ages of 10 and 18 liable for certain damages caused by the minor. Allows an individual, organization, or authority to bring a civil action to recover costs from a parent or legal guardian up to $5,000. Authorizes a court, in an action against a parent or legal guardian to recover damages by a child, to consider the parent's or guardian's financial hardship before payment.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 536*
Sec. 1—Requires the court to include as part of a probation sentence for a person convicted of a graffiti related offense successful participation in a graffiti removal program.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, SB 2*
Sec. 2151.355(F)(2), 2151.358—Allows the court to consider classifying a disposition for certain serious offenses as a conviction for the purpose of subsequent determinations about whether an individual is a repeat violent offender.

Sec. 3313.662—Makes major revisions in the penalties for certain drug offenses.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, Am. Sub. HB 1*
Sec. 2151.355 (A)(5)(a)—Allows the court to commit a child to a secure facility for 1 to 3 years not to exceed the child's attainment of age 21, for committing certain offenses.

Sec. 2151.355 (A)(5)(b)—Allows the court to commit a child to a secure facility for a minimum period of six to seven years and a maximum period not to exceed the child's attainment of age 21, if the child attempted to commit murder or aggravated murder.

Sec. 2151.355 (A)(7)—Authorizes the court to commit a delinquent child to the Department of Youth Services for a period of time equal to the term of imprisonment that a court would impose upon an adult for possessing or using a firearm in the commission of certain felonious offenses. Specifies a maximum commitment of three years.

Sec. 2151.355 (B)(2)—Permits the court to require that certain juvenile offenders serve terms of commitment consecutively if the child committed two or more acts that would be felonies if committed by an adult.

Sec. 2151.355 (D)(1)(2)—Requires the court to consider the victim's age and the factors of violence and physical harm inflicted upon issuing the commitment order.

Sec. 2151.3512—Permits the juvenile court to impose a fine and costs according to a schedule if a child is adjudicated delinquent or a juvenile traffic offender.

Sec. 2151.35—Requires the court to inform the child of the possible length of commitment before accepting a guilty or no contest plea to the commission of a category one or two offense.

Sec. 2933.44 (A), (B)—Defines "juvenile-related forfeiture order" Requires each certified drug and alcohol addiction treatment program that receives funds to file an annual report.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, HB 4*
Sec. 1—Allows the court to make disposition orders related to conduct involving a firearm if a child is adjudicated delinquent.

Sec. 2151.411—Clarifies that preexisting provisions of the juvenile law apply to those parents named as "residential parents."

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, HB 2692*
Sec. 24-101 A and B—Permits a student who has been adjudicated delinquent for a nonviolent offense to be suspended out-of-school by the principal. Requires the student to be placed in a supervised, structured environment in either a home-based school work assignment setting or another appropriate setting. Allows the principal to consider and apply alternative in-school placement options that are not considered suspension before a student is suspended.

Sec. 7304-1.1 C.—Allows a child who has violated a court order and has had the order revoked or modified to be placed in a designated sanction detention bed or an approved sanction program.

Sec. 650.2 C.—Makes it a felony for anyone in the custody of the Office of Juvenile Affairs to knowingly commit aggravated assault and battery upon an office employee while the employee is performing his or her duties.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 28*
Authorizes the court to require the parents to be present at juvenile proceedings and to participate in court-ordered programs for the child.

PR *1996 Puerto Rico Laws, PC 1907*
Sec. Art. 24 (b)(c)—Outlines dispositional options for the court based on length of custody.

Sec. Art. 29—Specifies circumstances for extended dispositions.

Sec. Art. 30, 31—Outlines commitment procedures, and requires the court to review disposition orders.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 334*
Sec. 1 and 2—Requires the attorney general's office to establish a mentor program for juvenile offenders under family court jurisdiction. Allows the court to order a child to participate in the mentor program as part of probation.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 383*
Allows the family court to suspend or restrict a child's driver's license until age 17 for committing a status offense or until age 18 for a criminal offense.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 450*
Sec. 19—Makes parents immune from liability for the care and support of a 17-year-old child if she or he is incorrigible.

SD *1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 177*
Authorizes the court to order a child's parents to supervise and observe the child's behavior for a specific period of time.

SD *1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 180*
Authorizes the court to require a child to pay for any damage done to property or for medical expenses if payment can be enforced without serious hardship or injustice to the child.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 982*
Sec. 1 (b)—Authorizes the court to determine if any monetary damages result from a child's delinquent conduct and to make restitution for such damages.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 1*
Sec. 57—Allows a minor held in detention to receive good behavior credit against the period of detention.

Sec. 64—Authorizes the court to order drivers' license suspension of minors who are at least 13 years old for certain offenses.

Sec. 90—Requires that a parent or guardian who has legal custody of a minor is liable for property damages caused by the minor not to exceed $2,000 under certain circumstances. Authorizes the court to waive part or all of the liability for damages upon certain findings.

Sec. 92—Authorizes the juvenile court to order a youth to clean up graffiti as a condition of probation.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 318*
Sec. 60—Establishes a time-limited, intensive treatment pilot program for status offenders. Requires parents to pay for the child's participation on a sliding fee scale.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, HB 18*
Sec. 1—Increases the amount that the victim of a juvenile crime may recover for compensatory damages from the youth's parent or guardian from $2,000 to $6,000.

VA *1995 Va. Acts, Chap. 840*
Allows localities to establish a community-based system of progressive sanctions for delinquents and children in need of services or supervision.

VT *1996 Vt. Acts, Act 147*
Sec. 1—Increases the age of a child at which a parent is responsible for a child's damages and the amount for which the parent is liable. Requires that information in the juvenile proceeding record may not be admitted as evidence.

Sec. 2—Requires that a person who contributes to a minor's delinquency be imprisoned not more than two years or fined not more than $2,000 or both.

Sec. 5—Allows the juvenile court to order the parents or guardian of a child in need to assist in the court's enforcement orders to ensure the child complies.

VT *1996 Vt. Acts, Act 170*
Sec. 17—Allows the victim of a delinquent act to file a written statement or oral tape recording of his or her views concerning the act, disposition, and the need for restitution. Requires the court to take those views into consideration in its dispositional order.

WA *1996 Wash. Laws, Chap. 133*
Sec. 28-29—Allows the court to place a runaway who has violated a placement order in detention.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 27*
Repeals the youthful offender program and creates the serious juvenile offender program for youth 14 years or older who meet certain criteria and have been adjudicated for a specific serious offense. Prohibits a juvenile court from extending its jurisdiction with respect to certain serious offenders who will now be placed in the serious juvenile offender program.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 77*
Creates a separate juvenile code. Revises the purpose to include public protection and accountability, competency development, due process, diversion through early intervention, prevention, public interest, and victim rights.

Sec. 938.02, 12, 34—Allows secure placement for 10-year-old delinquents.

Sec. 938.17—Allows a municipal court to suspend a hunting, fishing, or driver's license from 30 days up to 5 years for failure to pay a forfeiture. Also permits a municipal court to impose sanctions as part of a dispositional order or for violating a disposition including driver's license suspension, community service and home detention. Prohibits placement in secure detention but allows a municipal court to petition a juvenile court to do so.

Sec. 938.32, 938.335—Allows a victim to make a statement before disposition or consent decree.

Sec. 938.34—Makes juvenile murderers eligible for the serious juvenile offender program. Allows juveniles who commit certain offenses to be placed in a secure correctional facility and outlines criteria including determining whether a juvenile is a danger to the public and in need of secure placement. Permits a restitution order at any age. Creates new dispositional options for delinquency adjudication including teen court, short-term detention, youth village and dispositions for hate crimes.

Sec. 938.35—Specifies that a judgment in a juvenile proceeding is not a conviction of a crime.

Sec. 938.245—Changes the term "informal disposition" to deferred prosecution. Allows the court to order parents to participate in counseling or parenting classes and provides a penalty for failure to comply with the agreement.

Sec. 938.343—Allows juveniles who violate a civil law or municipal ordinance to be placed in a teen court program and modifies other dispositional options.

Sec. 938.345—Creates new dispositional options for juveniles found to be in need of protection or services including restitution or supervised work programs. Prohibits placement in the serious juvenile offender program or a secure correctional setting.

Sec. 895.035—Increases the amount of parental liability to $5,000. Authorizes the court to enter a judgment against the custodial parent for any restitution or forfeiture that is not paid by their child. Allows the court to order the parent or child to perform community service in lieu of restitution or forfeiture.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 94*
Requires sentences for escapees from detention centers to be served consecutively.

WY *1996 Wyo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 58*
Creates teen court programs as an alternative sentencing option for minor offenders.

WY *1996 Wyo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 106*
Sec. 14-6-227—Establishes parental responsibility sanctions including fines, parenting classes, and community service. Adds community service to the list of dispositions available for juvenile offenders.

Sec. 14-6-242—Clarifies that a child may be incarcerated for contempt of court.

Sec. 14-6-227, 21-13-315—Outlines considerations for out-of-state placement and court review of all out-of-home placements. Reduces the time requirement to review out-of-home placements.

Financing

AK *1996 Alaska Sess. Laws, Chap. 102*
Repeals the prohibition against using residential services grants for capital assets.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 471*
Increases the number of counties from five to six that can participate in a five-year children's services pilot program to transfer funding for specific services into a single, blended children and family services fund. Extends program duration to July 1, 2002.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 135*
Retains the juvenile crime prevention and early intervention trust fund.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 382*
Sec. 2—Allows a county that has a teen court to adopt a delinquency prevention fine.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 398*
Requires the Department of Juvenile Justice to collect certain cost information and to develop a cost-benefit analysis to apply to all commitment programs.

Sec. 13 (15) (a), (b)—Allows the state to enter into lease-purchase agreements to provide facilities to house committed youths.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 287*
Sec. 8 (5)—Authorizes four state agencies to create decategorized service accounts to serve children and youth with multiple problems. Requires a joint report to the Legislature on this pilot project.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, S. 240*
Establishes the local infrastructure revolving fund and allows money to be allocated to establish or improve juvenile detention centers.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 229*
Sec. 109—Allows the secretary or commissioner to enter into agreements for grants-in-aid for all community-based group boarding homes for children and youth.

Sec. 134 (h)—Creates a youth endowment fund for prevention programs.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 358*
Sec. 35 (1), (2), (3)—Allows the court to charge fees against juveniles who are found delinquent or are youthful offenders. Permits the court to assess the fees against the child's parent or guardian, unless the parent is the complainant against the child or is the victim of the child's acts.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 203*
Authorizes organizations that provide residential services to youth to receive grants through the Juvenile Justice Facilities Program and removes the funding ceiling.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 200*
Sec. 5—Allows the court to order parents to pay for the costs of caring for their delinquent child.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 408*
Sec. 6 Art. 1—Appropriates one-time funds for intensive monitoring pilot programs, for a collaborative at-risk juveniles project in the Willmar public schools and a regional treatment center.

Sec. 2 Art. 2—Raises the maximum amount of the youth intervention grant from $25,000 to $50,000.

Sec. 5 Art. 2—Expands the community crime prevention grant program to permit funding of youth neighborhood centers, truancy programs, at-risk programs, and various school-based programs.

NJ *1996 N.J. Laws, Chap. 57*
Appropriates construction funds to a training school.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, Am. Sub. H 1*
Sec. 2923.35 (D) (1) (a)—Requires that 10 percent of proceeds of all property ordered forfeited by a juvenile court, under the Corrupt Activity Law, be applied to certified alcohol and drug addiction treatment programs.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 19*
Authorizes the construction of a 500-cell maximum security facility and two 50-bed secure facilities for juvenile offenders.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 1*
Sec. 38—Creates the nonjudicial adjustment account to pay expenses of juvenile community service, victim restitution, and diversion programs. No more than 50 percent of any fine or forfeiture collected can be paid to a state rehabilitative employment program for delinquent minors.

Sec. 81—Authorizes the court to require a parent or guardian to support a minor and pay his or her youth corrections facility or other detention costs.

Institutions/Services/Prevention

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 84*
Requires that at least 20 percent of the appropriation for youth crime prevention be designated for children under age 9, and that one or more members of the youth crime prevention and intervention board be knowledgeable about early childhood care and education.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 156*
Sec. 2 (a)—Directs the Department of Human Services to assess the need for a new multipurpose juvenile detention facility in La Plata County to serve certain detention and treatment needs of juveniles in southwest Colorado.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 230*
Sec. 1-4—Requires the state auditor to conduct programmatic reviews of all state prevention and intervention programs and specifies procedures for reporting to appropriate legislative committees, state agencies, and the governor.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 281*
Allows the department of human services to spend money appropriated for alternative services to prevent a juvenile from being sentenced to or held in detention.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 283*
Sec. 19-2-309 (2)(a)—Requires the establishment of guidelines for juveniles sentenced to the regimented juvenile training program. Requires that juveniles with extensive criminal histories will not be considered appropriate for the program.

Sec. 17-1-104.7 (1)—Requires the corrections department executive director to develop a management plan for housing juvenile inmates separate from adult inmates.

Sec. 19-2-404 (1) and (2)—Requires facilities that house or provide nonresidential services to adjudicated juveniles to establish policies for the short-term restraint and control of such juveniles. Makes facilities immune from liability.

Sec. 19-2-1101.5 (2)(a)—Requires the human services department to select three sites within the Denver metropolitan area that would be suitable for one or more juvenile detention facilities. Grants the department the power to acquire property through eminent domain to build juvenile detention facilities in the Denver area if the city fails to acquire property. Specifies deadlines.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 382*
Sec. 2—Allows a county that has a teen court to adopt a delinquency prevention fine.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 398*
Sec. 10 (2)(e)—Requires the Department of Juvenile Justice to establish standards to ensure quality of mental health services provided to children with mental, nervous, or emotional disorders who may be committed to intensive residential treatment programs.

Sec. 13 (14)—Requires expeditious siting of, acquisition of land for, and construction of state juvenile justice facilities.

Sec. 13 (15)(a) and (b)—Requires the Department of Juvenile Justice to erect facilities to accommodate children committed to the department. Allows the department to enter into lease-purchase agreements to provide facilities to house committed youths.

Sec. 19—Defines the procedures and services for families and children in need of services.

Sec. 21—Establishes conditions under which a child in need of services may be placed in a shelter.

Sec. 30—Authorizes medical, psychiatric, and psychological examination and treatment of a child under certain circumstances.

Establishes a policy framework to ensure that education is provided to youth in residential commitment programs.

Removes procedural requirements for siting juvenile justice facilities and permits the Department of Juvenile Justice to enter into lease-purchase agreements.

Clarifies the roles of the Juvenile Justice and Heath and Rehabilitative Services departments. Allows families or a child in need of services to be placed in a shelter for up to 35 days.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, SB 156*
Sec. 1—Requires the Legislature to study public safety laws on an eight-year cycle, including juvenile justice, prevention, intervention, and substance abuse.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 622*
Adds serious injury to provisions defining contributing to the delinquency of a minor. Specifies penalties for convictions resulting in serious injury or death to the minor.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 918*
Sec. 3(a)—Requires that a person who knowingly assists or encourages a child to escape or attempt to escape from state custody is guilty of a felony and shall be imprisoned for not less than one or more than five years.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 229*
Sec. 23 (a)(3)—Expands the crime of battery against a law enforcement officer to include a juvenile correctional facility officer or employee.

Sec. 25 (a)(6)—Expands the crime of contributing to a child's misconduct or deprivation to include causing or encouraging a child to violate the terms or conditions of the child's probation.

Sec. 106 (b)—Places community-based group boarding homes providing services for juvenile offenders under the authority of the juvenile justice commissioner, and other boarding homes under the secretary's authority.

Sec. 134 (h)—Creates a youth endowment fund for prevention programs.

Sec. 140 (a)—Changes the name of the Topeka Youth Center to the Juvenile Correctional Facility at Topeka.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 234*
Creates the youth trust fund for grants on juvenile justice reform including prevention and treatment and to promote state local partnerships.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 358*
Sec. 10 (1)—Permits the Juvenile Justice Department to operate or contract for the operation of any postadjudication juvenile detention or treatment facility for juveniles who are confined for a public offense or as youthful offenders.

Sec. 64 (2)—Establishes a division to provide educational programs to incarcerated youth including those ordered to remain in juvenile detention.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 136*
Increases the funding allocated to the Department of Juvenile Justice for a pilot program designed to teach construction skills to participants.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 408*
Sec. 8—Specifies a one-time appropriation for violence prevention education grants.

Sec. 9—Specifies a one-time appropriations for early age treatment programs for sexually aggressive children who have not yet been adjudicated delinquent. Authorizes the corrections commissioner to establish a family group conferencing pilot project in Dakota county.

Sec. 10—Specifies an appropriation for grants on curfew enforcement, truancy prevention, and pretrial diversion.

Sec. 5 Art. 2—Expands the community crime prevention grant program to permit funding of youth neighborhood centers; truancy programs; at-risk programs; and various school-based programs.

Sec. 3 Art. 2—Permits development and operation of a safe house program in Fergus Falls where children in danger may go for shelter.

Sec. 4 Art. 2—Allows the public safety commissioner to establish youth neighborhood centers.

Sec. 8 Art. 2—Requires the corrections commissioner to establish at least four community intensive monitoring pilot programs for at risk juveniles or juveniles who have committed delinquent acts or status offenses. Specifies a one-time appropriation for violence prevention grants.

Sec. 6 Art. 2—Allows local law enforcement agencies to hire officers to replace those reassigned to investigate and prevent juvenile crime.

MO *1996 Mo. Laws, HB 1117*
Authorizes the state to allow private, public, or nonprofit groups to use or lease youth services buildings and grounds.

MO *1996 Mo. Laws, HB 1298 and 1301*
Sec. 575.090—Requires the state to identify and adopt public school instruction on violence prevention including the negative consequences of gang membership. Requires teacher training on violence prevention and early identification of and intervention in violent behavior. Defines assault on school property as a crime.

MO *1996 Mo. Laws, SB 489*
Sec. A 3, 8—Authorizes the Department of Corrections to establish correctional treatment programs for offenders under age 17. Requires a report.

MT *1995 Mont. Laws, HB 380*
Sec. 8—Prohibits placement of juvenile offenders in a youth correctional facility unless sufficient space is available. Requires the sentencing judge to consider recommendations from the youth placement committee in making placement decisions.

MT *1995 Mont. Laws, HB 540*
Sec. 10—Allows shelter care operators to provide a physically restrictive setting for children in need of supervision or care and delinquent youth.

Sec. 5—Deletes detention from the list of appropriate placements for youth in need of supervision.

NC *1996 N.C. Sess. Laws, Chap. 609*
Sec. 3—Allows a judge to conduct a hearing to determine whether a juvenile needs medical, psychiatric, psychological, or other treatment and who should pay for the cost. Authorizes the judge to order the county to arrange and pay for the juvenile's treatment if the parent is unable to do so.

NM *1996 N.M. Laws, Chap. 88*
Sec. 1—Authorizes the criminal and juvenile justice coordinating council to consider certain factors in the design, location, and use of a proposed secure juvenile facility.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, Am. Sub. HB 1*
Sec. 2151.38—Prohibits the state from releasing a child from institutional care, granting parole, or assigning the child to a family home, group care facility, or other treatment or rehabilitation facility before the expiration of the required period of commitment, unless an early release procedure is utilized.

Sec. 2151.38 (B)(2)(a)—Requires the state to request the court for an early release from institutional care or a secure facility, if it wishes to release a child prior to the expiration of the commitment period.

Sec. 2923.35 (D)(1)(a)—Requires that 10 percent of proceeds of all property ordered forfeited by a juvenile court, under the Corrupt Activity Law, be applied to certified alcohol and drug addiction treatment programs.

Sec. 2151.23 (H)(2)—Allows the state to house an inmate age 14 to 18 in a state correctional institution unit separate from inmates older than 18 years, under certain circumstances.

Sec. 3301.121 (J)(13)(e)—Includes in the definition of "felony delinquents" those who are serving a three-year period of commitment order imposed by a juvenile court for an act that would be a category one or two offense if committed by an adult, other than aggravated burglary.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, HB 117*
Sec. 45.05, 45.30—Authorizes educational service centers to provide education programs to children in private residential placements.

Sec. 2151.357—Increases the education subsidy for youth committed to a private facility.

Sec. 5139.01(a)(13), 5139.04(E)—Adds certain youth who commit a felony while in a department of youth services institution to the public safety beds provisions of the felony delinquents care and custody law.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, HB 2692*
Sec. 7302-3.5 D.—Requires the Department of Juvenile Justice to implement a pilot program to establish community intervention centers.

OR *1996 Or. Laws, S. 1169*
Directs the governor to submit a funding proposal to the legislature for youth crime prevention and early intervention programs.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 19*
Authorizes the construction of a 500-cell maximum security facility and two 50-bed secure facilities for juvenile offenders.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 34*
Funds the conversion of a state hospital into a correctional boot camp.

PR *1996 Puerto Rico Laws, PC 1907*
Sec. Art. 3 (f), Art. 35—Authorizes the juvenile justice department to place committed youth in programs at its discretion. Requires evaluation for placement decisions.

Sec. Art. 5—Specifies placement for juveniles tried and convicted as adults.

PR *1996 Puerto Rico Laws, PS 507*
Establishes a consumer advisory committee to set up a voluntary television classification system to advise viewers of violence or other content that could negatively affect youth.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 334*
Sec. 1 and 2—Requires the attorney general's office to establish a mentor program for juvenile offenders under family court jurisdiction. Allows the court to order a child to participate in the mentor program as part of probation.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 383*
Requires the Juvenile Justice Department to report the number of juveniles in pretrial detention in order to monitor proper detention and to assume adequate funding.

SD *1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 172*
Allows the court to appoint a guardian for a child who is committed to the Department of Corrections or the Human Services Center. Requires the county in which proceedings are concluded to pay a child's custodial costs for seven days after issuance of the final disposition decree that places the child at the Human Services Center.

SD *1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 179*
Establishes procedures for holding juveniles in detention for certain offenses.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 814*
Directs the state to establish a school safety center on behavior, discipline, and violence prevention. Requires the center to collect and analyze data on school-related violence, among other issues. Authorizes grants to local education agencies.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 1079*
Sec. 14—Directs the state to have its youth development centers accredited by a regionally or nationally recognized entity.

Sec. 106—Creates a 24-hour on-call intervention program to stabilize juvenile-family crises as an alternative to or in tandem with court intervention.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 1*
Sec. 68—Prohibits the custody transfer of a minor to a state prison or other adult correctional facility.

Sec. 81—Authorizes the court to require a parent or guardian to support a minor and pay his or her youth corrections facility or other detention costs.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 136*
Sec. 9—Requires written parental consent for a child to participate in prevention and early intervention programs.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 224*
Sec. 2—Requires the Department of Corrections to provide treatment for sex offenders and to provide results of ongoing assessments and diagnostic testing to sentencing and release authorities. Requires this information to be shared with the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice.

Sec. 3—Requires mental health providers to be licensed as mental health professionals to treat sex offenders.

Sec. 4—Appropriates $410,000 to the Department of Corrections for sex offender treatment.

VA *1995 Va. Acts, Chap. 840*
Allows localities to establish a community-based system of progressive sanctions. Outlines a funding formula for programs and requires the state to partially reimburse localities for detention facility construction costs.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, H. 306*
Creates the Healthy Communities Program to provide matching funds for early childhood services and school-aged youth, teens, and their families, including after-school and recreation programs, gang diversion, mentoring, and job placement.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 27*
Sec. 9426 (19t)—Transfers responsibilities for administering juvenile corrections, intensive supervision and aftercare from the Department of Health and Social Services to the Department of Corrections.

Repeals the youthful offender program and creates the serious juvenile offender program for youth 14 years or older who meet certain criteria and have been adjudicated for a specific serious offense. Prohibits a juvenile court from extending its jurisdiction after June 30, 1996. Allows a youth 10 years of age or older to be placed in the serious juvenile offender program if adjudicated delinquent for certain homicide offenses.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 77*
Sec. 302.18—Requires the state to keep juveniles convicted as adults in secure care until age 15 at which time they may be transferred to state prison.

Sec. 938.02, 34—Defines the role of the victim-witness coordinator.

Sec. 938.57—Requires county welfare agencies to give first priority in services to juveniles referred by the juvenile court.

Sec. 938.355—Allows a caseworker to place a juvenile adjudged delinquent in secure detention without a hearing for violating a dispositional order. Specifies the time period for detention. Also allows a caseworker to place a juvenile found to be in need of protection or services who is uncontrollable, a dropout or habitually truant and who violates a dispositional order into custody without a hearing. Specifies placement in a nonsecure setting and the time limits.

Sec. 938.357; 938.361; 938.505—Authorizes the corrections department to license secure care units operated by child welfare agencies. Allows a child welfare agency to place a juvenile in a less restrictive setting. Specifies payment provisions for alcohol and drug treatment ordered by a municipal court. Allows the state to petition the court to administer psychotropic medication to youth under supervision.

Sec. 939,635, 940.20, 940-948—Expands the definition of substantial risk for purposes of holding a juvenile in custody. Provides penalties for committing assault or battery while in a secure facility or on a probation, parole, or aftercare officer.

Sec. 948.549—Requires the state to make available to all counties a classification system to be used for intake, disposition, or placement.

Sec. 9112—Requires a report to the Legislature on proposed rates for secured correctional units.

Jurisdiction/Waivers

AL *1996 Ala. Acts, Act 571*
Sec. 12-15-34 (a) and (b)—Allows a prosecutor to request court transfer of a child for criminal prosecution, if the child was age 14 or older at the time of the offense. Authorizes the court to transfer the child to adult court if it finds the child is not mentally retarded or ill.

Sec. 12-15-34.1 (a) and (b)—Requires that a person who has attained age 16 at the time of the alleged conduct will be charged, arrested, and tried as an adult for certain offenses. Requires that a person who has been tried in criminal court not be subject to juvenile court jurisdiction for any subsequent offense.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 283*
Sec. 19-2-104—Allows the district attorney to file a charge against a juvenile before a juvenile court transfer hearing. Gives the district court jurisdiction over proceedings upon filing or indictment.

Sec. 19-2-517 (1)(a)—Allows direct filing in district court or by indictment when the juvenile allegedly committed vehicular homicide, vehicular assault, or felonious arson.

Sec. 19-2-518 (1)(a)—Authorizes the juvenile court to order a juvenile to be held for criminal proceedings in the district court under certain circumstances.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, Chap. 596 (1996)*
Sec. 1—Allows the Superior Court to retain jurisdiction if a judge or jury finds a child guilty of a lesser crime following a trial or guilty plea for certain crimes.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, Chap. 597 (1996)*
Sec. 2 (b)—Requires that when a child under age 16 is sentenced to incarceration, such sentence shall be served in a juvenile facility and the child will remain in custody of the Division of Youth Rehabilitative Services. Requires the child to be transferred to the Department of Correction to serve the remaining portion of the sentence when she or he reaches age 16.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, Chap. 598 (1996)*
Sec. 3—Requires the court to conduct a hearing to determine whether a 15-year-old alleged delinquent should be referred to Superior Court for adult trial.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 741*
Sec. 1—Defines designated felony act to include certain offenses committed by a person 13 to 17 years old, a second or subsequent delinquency adjudication, or an offense within the exclusive superior court jurisdiction that is transferred to the juvenile court for adjudication.

ID *1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, SB 1527*
Extends district court jurisdiction over a juvenile sentenced as an adult until age 21.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, HB 1363*
Sec. 1—Gives the juvenile court jurisdiction over a delinquent child or a child in need of services and over his or her parent, guardian, or custodian until the parent, guardian, or custodian fulfills the necessary financial obligation.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1134*
Sec. 1—Authorizes the juvenile court to accept a guilty plea from a child or instruct the jury on a lesser included offense to the offense excluded from juvenile court jurisdiction.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 229*
Sec. 42 (c)—Allows the district court to continue jurisdiction over an alleged juvenile offender until the juvenile has reached age 23, unless an adult sentence is imposed. Allows jurisdiction to continue if an adult sentence is imposed, until discharged by the court or other adult sentence process.

Sec. 67(a) (2) and (3)—Authorizes the county or district attorney to request the court to authorize prosecution of a juvenile as an adult and to request the court to designate the proceedings as an extended jurisdiction juvenile prosecution.

Sec. 67 (f) (2)—Gives a juvenile who is the subject of an extended jurisdiction juvenile prosecution the right to a jury trial, counsel's assistance, and all other Kansas criminal procedure code rights.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 358*
Sec. 40 (4)—Permits the District Court to transfer a child for trial in adult court if it finds that the child committed a felony with a firearm, and that the child was age 14 or older at the time of the alleged felony.

Sec. 42 (1)—Requires a juvenile convicted or adjudged delinquent of three or more offenses to be retained under the district court's jurisdiction until the child reaches age 18. Requires that the court not retain jurisdiction for more than one year if the juvenile is convicted or adjudged of a third or subsequent misdemeanor after reaching age 17-and-a-half.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 200*
Sec. 1-2—Defines youthful offender. Expands extended jurisdiction to include serious bodily harm and previous commitments.

Sec. 3-4—Requires a jury trial and entry of a plea in delinquency or youthful offender proceedings. Outlines circumstances to waive a jury trial and procedures.

Sec. 5, 27—Establishes jurisdictional age limits for youthful offenders and dual sentencing in the adult and juvenile systems. Requires a sentencing hearing and specifies sentencing considerations for youthful offenders.

Sec. 13—Allows juvenile court jurisdiction in proceedings against 17 to 19-year-olds and allows youthful offenders to be sentenced to the juvenile system until age 21.

Sec. 14-15—Establishes automatic transfer for murder.

Sec. 29-35—Establishes indictment proceedings for juveniles to be sentenced as adults.

MT *1995 Mont. Laws, HB 380*

Sec. 1-7—Establishes extended jurisdiction for certain juvenile offenders. Allows youth to be sentenced as both juveniles and adults with the adult sentence suspended if the youth conforms to conditions of the juvenile disposition.

NC *1996 N.C. Sess. Laws, HB 53*

Sec. 7A-523 (c)—Gives the court jurisdiction over a juvenile under age 18, who allegedly committed a felony or misdemeanor between age 13 and 16, for the purpose of conducting proceedings and either transferring the case for trial as adult or dismissing the petition.

Sec. 7A-524—Allows the court to retain jurisdiction of a juvenile if the delinquency proceedings cannot be concluded before the juvenile reaches age 18.

NM *1996 N.M. Laws, Chap. 85*

Sec. 1—Changes the definition of serious youthful offender to include individuals age 15 to 18 years old who are charged with and indicted for first degree murder. Lowers the age of youthful offender to include a delinquent child subject to adult or juvenile sanctions who is 14 to 18 years old at the time of the act and adjudicated for a certain offense.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, Am. Sub. HB 1*

Sec. 2151.011—Lists the circumstances under which a person under age 18 who is prosecuted and convicted as an adult is no longer considered a child.

Sec. 2151.26 (C)(2)—Requires the court to consider certain factors, prior to transferring a case for criminal prosecution, including harm to the victim, the age of the victim, whether the child allegedly carried a firearm, and whether the child has a history of failure to rehabilitate.

Sec. 2151.23 (H)(1)—Specifies that a youth age 14 to 18 who is transferred for criminal prosecution is no longer under juvenile court jurisdiction.

Sec. 2151.26 (B)—Requires the court to transfer a delinquent child's case for criminal prosecution if the child was age 14 to 18 at the time of the act, if there is probable cause to believe that the child committed the act, and if certain circumstances apply.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, HB 2692*

Sec. 7306-1.1B.—Considers a person age 13 to 17 who is charged with first degree murder an adult.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 9*

Provides that a summary offense that occurred when a delinquent act was committed shall be heard by the juvenile court.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 13*

Clarifies court jurisdiction of restitution orders issued to juveniles before and after they turn 21.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 33*

Transfers cases involving certain crimes from juvenile court to criminal court.

RI *1995 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 132*

Sec. 1 (a)(1)—Requires the attorney general to show evidence that probable cause exists unless such proof was elicited at a prior hearing and such findings were made by the same family court justice who is conducting the waiver proceeding.

RI *1996 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 38*

Sec. 1 (III)—Allows certain people under age 18 to be referred to the juvenile hearing board if the alleged offense would be a misdemeanor.

RI *1996 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 133*

Treats individuals 17 or older who are charged with first degree child molestation as adults and removes them from the jurisdiction of family court.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 767*

Sec. 1—Requires the general session court or juvenile court to make an audio recording of a transfer hearing.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 1079*
Sec. 4—Extends the jurisdiction of juvenile court to those age 19.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 1*
Sec. 27—Gives the juvenile court exclusive original jurisdiction in certain proceedings.

Sec. 28—Gives the district court or other court exercising jurisdiction over a violation concurrent jurisdiction with the juvenile court under certain circumstances.

Sec. 48—Requires the court to transfer a criminal or quasi-criminal proceeding to the juvenile court if it determines that the person charged is under age 21 and was less than 18 years old at the time he or she committed the alleged offense.

Sec. 69—Gives the district court exclusive original jurisdiction over all children age 16 or older charged or indicted with an offense which would be murder or aggravated murder or an offense which would be a felony if committed by an adult if the minor previously was committed to a secure facility.

Sec. 70—Requires certain felony offenses committed by minors age 16 or older to be filed in the juvenile court.

Sec. 71—Requires the juvenile court to conduct a preliminary hearing and consider certain factors to determine whether a child should be waived to district court.

Sec. 82—Allows a minor on probation, under protective supervision, or under the continuing jurisdiction of the court to be transferred to the court of another district, if the receiving court consents, or upon direction of the Board of Juvenile Court Judges.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 239*
Sec. 3—Allows the juvenile court and the Division of Youth Corrections to regain jurisdiction over a juvenile when there is an acquittal, a finding of not guilty, or a dismissal of the charges in district court. Permits a minor to testify, call witnesses, cross-examine adverse witnesses, and present evidence at a preliminary hearing.

VT *1996 Vt. Acts, Act 178*
Sec. 303—Maintains juvenile court jurisdiction up to 21 years of age for youngsters that attain age 18 before July 1, 1996.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 27*
Prohibits a juvenile court from extending its jurisdiction with respect to certain serious offenders to be placed in the serious juvenile offender program under the Department of Corrections.

Sec. 9310, 9410—Lowers the age of adult court jurisdiction from 18 to 17 years old.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 77*
Sec. 938.12-17—Creates a new juvenile code for youth alleged to have violated a criminal, civil or municipal law or who are alleged to be uncontrollable, dropouts or habitually truant from home or school.

Sec. 938.01, 12, 964.50—Reduces the age at which a juvenile is subject to delinquency jurisdiction and clarifies the circumstances to retain jurisdiction over 17-year-olds.

Sec. 938.183, 970.032—Expands the list of offenses appropriate for extended jurisdiction under the serious juvenile offender program. Outlines circumstances for reverse waiver and offenses where it is prohibited. Outlines dispositional options for juveniles convicted of certain homicide offenses. Reduces the age for waiver and outlines procedures.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 94*
Establishes a pilot teen court program for status offenders as an alternative to the circuit court.

WY *1996 Wyo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 106*
Sec. 14-6-237—Specifies a procedure to transfer a case from municipal, county, or justice of the peace court to juvenile court.

Procedures

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 283*
Sec. 19-2-113 (1), (2)—Requires a parent or guardian to attend all juvenile proceedings. Allows the court to impose contempt sanctions against the parent or guardian for failure to attend such proceedings, unless the legal custodian is a county or state agency.

Sec. 19-2-511 (5)—Allows a juvenile and her or his parent or guardian to waive the requirement that the parent or guardian be present during interrogation of the juvenile. Requires that the juvenile's statements or admissions will not be inadmissible due to the parent's or guardian's absence.

Sec. 19-2-905 (1)—Allows the juvenile probation department to conduct a presentence investigation and address certain issues unless waived by the court.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 398*
Sec. 5—Requires that when a child is placed into secure or nonsecure detention care or other placement pursuant to a court order, the order must include specific instructions regarding the release of the child unless such requirements have been met or a continuance order has been granted.

Sec. 5 (5)(d)—Requires the court to conduct a hearing upon a continuance order to determine the need for a child's continued detention and for further continuance of proceedings for the child or state.

Creates guidelines for handling juveniles who are incompetent to proceed with a delinquency adjudication or disposition hearing.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, HB 1346*
Sec. 1—Requires a person who takes a child into custody to make written documentation not more than 24 hours after the child is taken into custody.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1110*
Sec. 1-2—Allows the victim of a delinquent act to file a victim impact statement and to be notified of certain information.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 358*
Sec. 5—Requires the court appointing counsel for a juvenile in a proceeding to make certain determinations regarding the legal custody of the child.

Sec. 19 (1)—Subjects a child who may be tried in adult court to the arrest, post-arrest, and criminal procedures that apply to an adult, except for the place of confinement.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 200*
Sec. 3-4—Requires a jury trial and entry of a plea in delinquency or youthful offender proceedings. Outlines circumstances and procedures to waive a jury trial.

Sec. 5—Establishes reasonable doubt as the criteria for adjudication. Requires a sentencing hearing for youthful offenders.

Sec. 29-35—Establishes indictment proceedings for juveniles to be sentenced as adults.

Sec. 38—Require the courts to provide resources to conduct juvenile trials.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 408*
Sec. 3 Art. 6—Permits service of juvenile court summonses and petitions to be mailed instead of personally served.

Sec. 4 Art. 6—Allows the juvenile court to hold in-contempt and/or issue an arrest warrant for a person whom the court believes is avoiding personal service.

Sec. 5 Art. 6—Allows a child, parent, guardian or custodian the right to counsel if the child is charged with a third or subsequent juvenile alcohol or controlled substance offense and may be subject to alternative disposition.

Sec. 9 Art. 6—Authorizes the court to order a new hearing to be held within 30 days, upon a showing that new evidence exists which affects the court's original adjudication or disposition of a juvenile, unless the court extends this time period for good cause.

Sec. 10 Art. 6—Requires that a child who is under the continued jurisdiction of the court for committing a crime other than a delinquent act or a juvenile petty offense may not be adjudicated delinquent solely for knowingly interfering with or disobeying a court order.

Sec. 12 Art. 6—Repeals the current law that governs service of juvenile court case summonses and subpoenas.

MT *1995 Mont. Laws, HB 429*
Sec. 6—Requires the county attorney to notify certain victims of information pertaining to the case.

NC *1996 N.C. Sess. Laws, HB 53*
Sec. 7A-655 (3)—Requires the Division of Youth Services to notify certain individuals and agencies before considering the release of a juvenile who is serving a commitment for a Class A or B1 felony.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, HB 4*
Sec. 2151.411 (C)(2)— Requires a court that places a delinquent child on probation to notify certain individuals that authorized probation officers may conduct searches if they believe that the child is not abiding by the law or noncompliance with probation conditions.

Sec. 2155.355 (K)—Authorizes probation officers to search, with or without a warrant, a delinquent child during the period of probation if the officers believe the child is not abiding by the law or complying with probation conditions. Outlines specific procedures.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 11*
Makes juvenile court proceedings open when the alleged conduct would be a felony if committed by an adult. Applies to conduct committed when the child was age 14 or older, or to children age 12 or older who committed certain offenses.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 13*
Specifies the types of court proceedings where the fact that the child was adjudicated delinquent is admissible.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 21*
Prohibits the release of a child from detention or shelter care if failure to hold a hearing within 10 days resulted from witness unavailability as a result of conduct by or on behalf of the child.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 28*
Authorizes the court to require the parents to be present at juvenile proceedings and to participate in court-ordered programs for the child.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 33*
Authorizes the court to order the parent to attend juvenile proceedings.

PR *1996 Puerto Rico Laws, PC 1907*
Sec. Art. 6—Requires juveniles to be represented by legal counsel in juvenile proceedings.

PR *1996 Puerto Rico Laws, PC 2445*
Establishes procedures for appellant review of juvenile cases.

PR *1996 Puerto Rico Laws, PC 2446*
Outlines probable cause procedures in juvenile cases.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 383*
Requires the consolidation of a child's charges so that all charges will be tried in one court.

SD *1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 174*
Opens juvenile court proceedings if the juvenile is charged with a crime of violence or a drug offense and the juvenile was 16 years or older at the time of commission.

SD *1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 175*
Authorizes victims of juvenile crimes to attend juvenile hearings.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 1*
Sec. 29—Authorizes the court to issue search warrants and subpoenas in criminal cases, delinquency, and neglect proceedings for the same purposes and by the same procedures as those in the criminal code.

Sec. 54—Requires a parent or legal guardian to appear in court with a minor. Allows failure to appear to result in-contempt of court, and allows the court to issue a bench warrant. Allows the court to appoint a guardian ad litem if neither parents nor guardians appear.

Sec. 55—Allows a peace officer, a private citizen, or a probation officer to take a minor into custody without a court order under certain circumstances.

Sec. 58—Establishes victim rights in juvenile cases.

Sec. 60—Gives the parents, guardian, custodian, and the minor the right to be represented by counsel at every stage of juvenile proceedings.

Sec. 87—Authorizes the court to appoint an attorney guardian ad litem to represent a minor involved in any case and to consider only the best interest of the minor in determining whether to appoint such guardian.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 239*
Sec. 3—Allows the juvenile court and the Division of Youth Corrections to regain jurisdiction over a juvenile when there is an acquittal, a finding of not guilty, or a dismissal of the charges in district court. Permits a minor to testify, call witnesses, cross-examine adverse witnesses, and present evidence at a preliminary hearing.

VT *1996 Vt. Acts, Act 170*
Sec. 17—Allows the victim of a delinquent act to file a written statement or oral tape recording of his or her views concerning the act, disposition, and the need for restitution. Requires the court to take those views into consideration in its dispositional order.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 77*
Sec. 938.17—Authorizes a municipal court to issue a summons requiring a parent, custodian, or legal guardian of a juvenile to appear in court and provides for contempt.

Sec. 938.21, 939.54—Redefines the 24-hour time period to begin after the end of the day that the decision to hold a juvenile in custody is made. Redefines the 72-hour hold for violating a condition of participation, and allows a caseworker as crisis intervention to take and place a juvenile into custody for 30 days, without a hearing.

Sec. 938.29—Specifies the circumstance under which a juvenile or parent may not request a substitute judge.

Sec. 938.32, 938.245—Allows a deferred prosecution agreement or consent decree to remain in effect for up to one year.

Removes the right to trial by jury for juveniles in proceedings under the juvenile justice code.

Sec. 938.32, 938.335—Allows a victim to make a statement before disposition or consent decree.

Sec. 938.33, 938.185—Allows recommendations for out-of-home placements to be made orally except for placement in the Serious Juvenile Offender Program. Specifies the place of venue.

Sec. 938.51—Requires notification of a juvenile's release or escape to the victim of any delinquent act.

Sec. 938.299, 62, 30-31—Authorizes the court to allow the media access to certain proceedings and specifies the circumstances. Grants the public access to proceedings related to certain repeat offenders and certain serious offenders.

Sec. 938.315—Excludes any period of delay caused by the substitution of a judge or the transfer of a case from the time requirements under the Juvenile Justice Code.

Sec. 895.035—Specifies that neither a parent nor juvenile has the right to be represented by appointed counsel in proceedings to consider community service.

Records

AL *1996 Ala. Acts, Act 524*
Sec. 12-15-100 (a) and (d)—Requires certain records of delinquent, in need of supervision, and dependent children to be open to inspection and copying by certain people or agencies. Requires that a person who knowingly discloses such information commits a misdemeanor.

Sec. 12-15-101 (a)—Makes the court require all law enforcement agencies to take special precautions to ensure that a child's records and files will be maintained to prevent disclosure to unauthorized people.

Sec. 12-15-102 (a)—Allows law enforcement officers to fingerprint a child who is referred to court for an alleged delinquent act. Requires destruction of the fingerprints and any copies if the court does not find that the child committed the alleged felony.

Sec. 41-9-622 (2)—Allows the commission to review and report fingerprints and other identifying information on adjudicated serious juvenile offenders or those adjudicated delinquent for an act that would constitute a Class A or B felony if it was committed by an adult.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 230*
Sec. 6—Authorizes state agencies and schools to exchange information on delinquency and dependency, and neglect cases. Outlines a process for parental notification and consent.

Sec. 7—Gives victims access to juvenile records. Relaxes expungement requirements and requires the court to consider both the best interests of the petitioner and the community. Changes the time limits on expungement in various cases and prohibits expungement for certain crimes or when a case is directly filed in adult court.

Sec. 6 (19-1-301)—Authorizes state agencies and the judicial department to exchange certain information with each other and school personnel. Requires a consent form for voluntary exchange, and specifies procedures in involuntary cases. Consolidates all records provisions in the children's code.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, SB 156*
Sec. 8-21—Extends records disclosure to all ages of juvenile offenders who commit certain crimes. Clarifies notification to schools and criminal justice agencies and release procedures.

Sec. 1-16—Increases the membership in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Information Systems Council, requires the council to coordinate data among public safety agencies and outlines management principles.

Sec. 41—Authorizes the state to develop a statewide criminal street gang data base to facilitate the exchange of information.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 863*
Sec. 1—Limits the use of a juvenile disposition and evidence introduced in a juvenile court hearing to delinquency proceedings and felony sentencing and to establish bail and plea negotiations.

ID *1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, HB 715*
Authorizes the fingerprinting and photographing of juveniles taken into custody by law enforcement.

ID *1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, HB 716*
Requires diversion information after the delinquency petition has been filed to be included in a statewide juvenile offender information system.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 1365*
Sec. 1-7—Requires registration for juvenile sex offenders.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1134*

Sec. 6—Requires a person who has been convicted of a criminal or sexual offense against a minor to register for 10 years beginning from the date of release from foster care or residential treatment.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1135*

Sec. 1—Authorizes the court to order the fingerprinting of a juvenile adjudicated delinquent for an offense that would constitute an aggravated misdemeanor or felony if committed by an adult. Requires the prints to be submitted to the Department of Public Safety if the juvenile has not previously been fingerprinted.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1150*

Sec. 2—Gives the Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning access to juvenile court records for purposes of research and evaluation.

Sec. 7—Prohibits a juvenile justice agency, state or federal regulatory agency, or a peace officer from disseminating intelligence data except under specified circumstances.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 229*

Sec. 35 (g)—Includes any juvenile intake and assessment officer among those who may view confidential child abuse and neglect records and reports received by law enforcement agencies.

Sec. 58 (a)—Requires the Kansas Juvenile Offender Information system to be operational and functional on or before July 1, 1997, unless extended by official action.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 182*

Sec. 1—Gives an attorney representing a child in a proceeding or in any adult criminal proceeding full access to all records related to that child that the attorney believes is necessary to represent that child.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 358*

Sec. 4—Requires the Administrative Office of the Courts to be the primary repository of certain juvenile court records. Allows the office to make such records available to agencies and people specified by law.

Sec. 8—Allows evidence offered relevant to sentencing to include juvenile court records of guilty adjudications of felony-level offenses.

Sec. 19 (3)—Prohibits certain juvenile records from release to the public until after the child has been indicted and arraigned for trial as an adult.

Sec. 34 (1-3)—Requires the court to notify a child's school when the child is adjudicated as a youthful or violent offender or convicted of a felony-level offense. Prohibits disclosure of a student's juvenile records except to certain public or private school personnel.

Sec. 36 (3)—Allows public scrutiny of court records regarding a juvenile delinquent who has committed a capital or Class A, B, or C felony-level offense or an offense in which a deadly weapon is involved or displayed.

Sec. 36 (4)—Permits admission of juvenile court records of a felony-level offense when a juvenile is tried as an adult, or after the child becomes an adult, at any subsequent criminal trial.

Sec. 38 (1)—Allows disclosure of juvenile court records that contain arrest, petition, adjudication, and disposition information about a child to victims or other people authorized to attend a juvenile court hearing.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 375*

Sec. 1 (1)—Allows the Department of Corrections to provide or contract with a private entity to inform the public of the release of an incarcerated person from a juvenile detention facility, or a regional or county jail.

ME *1995 Me. Public Laws, Chap. 690*

Sec. 1—Allows the Department of Corrections to provide, to certain agencies, a copy of the judgment and commitment of a juvenile who is adjudicated of gross sexual assault.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 200*
Sec. 6-9—Grants public access to youthful offender records and proceedings.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 408*
Sec. 6 Art. 6—Allows the juvenile court to forward to the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension any known aliases or street names of juveniles adjudicated delinquent for committing a felony-level criminal sexual conduct.

Sec. 11 Art. 6—Requires community corrections agencies that operate secure juvenile detention facilities to take fingerprints, photographs, and other identification data. Includes offenders' known aliases or street names in the reporting requirements.

Sec. 8 Art. 9—Allows a person who has been committed to the corrections commissioner's custody to petition for the sealing of a conviction record under certain circumstances.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 440*
Sec. 45 Art. 1—Requires the court to retain records of a juvenile who committed an act that would be a felony or gross misdemeanor until the offender reaches age 28.

Sec. 46 Art. 1—Requires the court to forward to the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension certain data in juvenile petitions that involve felony- or gross misdemeanor-level offenses. Requires all data related to the petition to be destroyed if the petition was dismissed or the juvenile did not commit the offense. Authorizes the bureau to retain data on a juvenile found to have committed a felony- or gross misdemeanor-level offense until the offender reaches age 28.

Sec. 49 Art. 1—Requires the state to administer and maintain the computerized juvenile history record system. Allows access by criminal justice agencies, trial and appellate courts and authorizes dissemination of records in connection with a background check under certain circumstances, if the background check is required by law.

MT *1995 Mont. Laws, HB 429*
Sec. 2-5—Gives the public access to juvenile records and specifies exceptions. Exempts fingerprints, photographs, and cases where a youth does not comply with a court order from requirements to seal juvenile records.

MT *1995 Mont. Laws, HB 540*
Sec. 9—Requires records to be sealed three years after supervision for an offense ends. Records may be unsealed if a new offense is committed.

NC *1996 N.C. Sess. Laws, HB 53*
Sec. 7A-603 (a) and (c)—Authorizes law enforcement to fingerprint and photograph a juvenile delinquent who was age 10 or older at the time she or he allegedly committed the offense that would be a Class A, B, C, D, or E felony if committed by an adult. Requires that such fingerprints and photographs are not public records and are not eligible for expunction.

NM *1996 N.M. Laws, Chap. 85*
Sec. 3—Allows the record of a judgment that results in an adult sentence to be admissible in other cases or court proceedings involving the youthful offender or serious youthful offender.

Sec. 4—Requires a child adjudicated delinquent for graffiti to perform community service. Determines failure to do so will result in publication in a local newspaper of the name and address of the child's parent or guardian.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, Am. Sub. HB 1*
Sec. 109.57—Requires procurement of fingerprints and other information about children age 14 to 18 who have been adjudicated delinquent for committing a category one or two offense or who have been convicted of or pleaded guilty to either type of offense. Requires procurement of fingerprints of children age 14 to 18 who are confined in a workhouse, jail, state correctional institution, or facility for delinquent children.

Sec. 2151.18 (A)(2)—Requires the juvenile court to maintain a weekly report that summarizes each case that involves a child adjudicated delinquent for committing a category one or two offense.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, SB 2*
Sec. 2151.355(F)(2), 2151.358—Allows the court to consider classifying a disposition for certain serious offenses as a conviction for the purpose of subsequent determinations about whether an individual is a repeat violent offender.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, HB 1053*
Sec. 7307-1.7 G—Deletes the provision that unsealed delinquent juvenile records may be inspected without a court order. Allows the court to issue an order to unseal sealed juvenile court records for certain uses.

Sec. 7307-1.2 C.1.d.—Explains that the confidentiality requirements for juvenile court records and law enforcement will not apply to a juvenile who is age 14 or older, who has been adjudicated delinquent and who subsequently comes before the juvenile court on a new delinquency matter after July 1, 1995.

Sec. 7307-1.2 D and H—Requires that any juvenile court record that becomes an open juvenile record may be expunged. Requires the court, upon filing a petition for inspection, release, disclosure, or correction of a juvenile record, to provide a 30-day notice to all interested parties and to the child's parents, if the child is under age 18.

Sec. 7307-1.3 B—Makes it a misdemeanor for a person to furnish any confidential record or disclose any confidential information contained in a juvenile record for any unauthorized purpose.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 1*
Authorizes a judge to review a juvenile record to determine bail in a criminal case.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 6*
Authorizes children under investigation for misdemeanors or felonies to be fingerprinted and photographed. Requires such records to be kept separately from adult records. Requires the court to order the destruction of such records if the juvenile is found not to have committed the crime.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 7*
Authorizes the expungement of juvenile delinquency records if the individual is 18 years old, the attorney of the commonwealth consents, and the court orders expungement after consideration of certain factors.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 11*
Authorizes the court to keep confidential certain information, such as juvenile probation reports.

Makes juvenile court proceedings open when the alleged conduct would be a felony if committed by an adult. Applies to conduct committed when the child was age 14 or older, or to children age 12 or older who committed certain offenses. Authorizes the court to keep confidential certain information, such as juvenile probation reports.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 13*
Specifies the types of court proceedings where the fact that the child was adjudicated delinquent is admissible.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 17*
Sec. 5—Requires background checks for the purchase of firearms to include a review of juvenile delinquency records.

Sec. 6, 10—Makes public the records of juveniles who are at least age 14 years when certain alleged crimes were committed.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 366*
Sec. 1 (A) and (B)—Requires that all official juvenile records are confidential and may be disclosed only to the juvenile's legal counsel and by consent to people with a legitimate interest. Authorizes the Department of Juvenile Justice to disclose to a crime victim descriptive information about the juvenile charged with the crime. Prohibits giving identifying information about a juvenile to the media except under certain circumstances.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 383*
Authorizes fingerprinting a juvenile who is under investigation for offenses.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 767*
Sec. 1—Requires the general session court or juvenile court to make an audio recording of each transfer hearing.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 1*
Sec. 63—Requires the court, when it adjudicates a minor for a violent crime or a weapons offense, to notify the school superintendent where the minor resides or attends school.

Sec. 80—Authorizes a person to petition the court for expungement of his or her juvenile court record after certain conditions are met.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 77*
Sec. 938.35—Allows evidence of a delinquency adjudication to be admitted in a proceeding to set bail or to impeach a witness. Specifies that a judgment in a juvenile proceeding is not a conviction of a crime.

Sec. 938.51—Requires notification of a juvenile's release or escape to the victim of any delinquent act.

Sec. 938.371—Permits disclosure of certain information, including HIV testing and disabilities, to foster homes and other placements.

Sec. 938.396—Allows law enforcement agencies to release certain information to a victim and a victim's insurer for the purpose of recovering loss or damages resulting from an offense and to the juvenile or his or her parent. Requires the release of law enforcement information to a victim-witness coordinator and other officials.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 82*
Requires juvenile court records to be confidential with limited exceptions. Allows for the disclosure of certain records to the school at that the juvenile is enrolled. Prohibits discrimination against people whose records were expunged.

Weapons Offenses

AL *1996 Ala. Acts, Act 570*
Sec. 12-15-53 (d)—Allows a child adjudicated delinquent for possession of a pistol, short-barreled rifle, or short-barreled shotgun to be detained in a detention facility until his or her hearing.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 918*
Sec. 3(a)—Requires that a person who knowingly assists or encourages a child to escape or attempt to escape from state custody is guilty of a felony and shall be imprisoned for not less than one or more than five years.

Sec. 3(d)—Requires that a person who knowingly provides to any child under state custody of the Department of Children and Youth Services a weapon or any intoxicating liquor or controlled substance or any other harmful, hazardous, or illegal item is guilty of a felony and subject to one to five years imprisonment.

Sec. 3(e)—Requires the state to file a delinquency petition if a child knowingly possesses a weapon, intoxicating liquor, controlled substance, or any harmful, hazardous, or illegal item while in custody.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 741*
Sec. 3—Makes it unlawful to distribute or offer to distribute a destructive device, explosive, poison gas, or detonator to a person under 21 years old.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 918*
Sec. 3(e)—Requires the state to file a delinquency petition if a child knowingly possesses a weapon, intoxicating liquor, controlled substance, or any harmful, hazardous, or illegal item while in custody.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 90*
Sec. 2—Allows students to be suspended from school for possessing a dangerous weapon, excluding a firearm, while attending school.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, H. 1148*
Deletes the term handgun and adds firearm to the statutes that apply to children and handguns. Allows the court to require an additional imprisonment term for using a firearm during the commission of an offense.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 482*
Allows certified school employees to conduct expulsion hearings for weapons violations.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 51*
Requires local school districts to expel students for one year who bring weapons to school. Authorizes local school districts to modify the expulsion penalty on a case-by-case basis. Authorizes alternative education programs for expelled students.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 358*
Sec. 36 (3)—Allows public scrutiny of court records regarding a juvenile delinquent who has committed an offense in that a deadly weapon is involved or displayed.

MA *1995 Mass. Acts, Chap. 278*
Requires that a youth adjudicated for an illegal weapons' possession be in custody until age 18 or for a mandatory minimum of six months. Allows the commissioner to determine if the juvenile is "unmanageable" and to transfer the delinquent to any facility that best serves the needs of the child and the interest of the public.

NC *1996 N.C. Sess. Laws, HB 53*
Sec. 20.13 (a)—Increases the punishment for the sale or transfer of a handgun to a minor to a Class H felony.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, Am. Sub. HB 1*
Sec. 2151.26 (C)(2)—Requires the court to consider certain factors, before transferring a case for criminal prosecution, including harm to the victim, the age of the victim, whether the child allegedly carried a firearm, and whether the child has a history of failure to rehabilitate.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, HB 4*
Sec. 1—Allows the court to make disposition orders related to conduct involving a firearm if a child is adjudicated delinquent.

Sec. 2923.211—Makes it an offense for a person under age 18 to purchase or attempt to purchase a firearm. Specifies respective penalties.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, HB 81*
Allows a student to be expelled for possessing a firearm or knife even though it was brought to school by another person.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 17*
Sec. 2—Prohibits people convicted as juveniles of certain offenses from possessing, selling, or manufacturing a firearm. Limits the prohibition for certain offenses to no more than 15 years.

Sec. 4—Prohibits the possession of a firearm by a minor with limited exceptions. Makes the unlawful delivery of a gun to a minor a third degree felony.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 26*
Sec. 4, 7—Expels, for at least one year, children who bring a weapon on to school property or to any school-sponsored activity.

RI *1995 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 95-061*
Sec. 1—Prohibits students from bringing or possessing firearms on school premises and from aiming a firearm or realistic replica of a firearm at school premises, vehicles, staff, students, or visitors. Makes the penalty a one year suspension from school.

SD *1996 S.D. Sess. Laws, Chap. 122*
Allows school boards to expel students who intentionally bring a firearm onto school grounds for no less than 12 months. Authorizes the superintendent or chief administering officer to increase or decrease the length of the expulsion.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 75*
Requires suspension and the initiation of expulsion proceedings for possessing a knife, firearm, or explosive while at school.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 77*
Sec. 939.50, 941.29—Increases the penalty for violating an order against possessing a firearm following conviction for this offense.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND CONTROL

License Revocation/Suspension

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 216*
Defines the blood or breath alcohol concentration when people under 21 may lose driving privileges and establishes penalties for first and subsequent violations.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 442*
Sec. 12—Establishes a license suspension penalty of 30 days for the first offense of DUI and 180 days for a repeat offense for drivers under 21.

Sec. 22—Extends the length of time that people under 18, whose license has been suspended or revoked for certain DUI and other offenses, must wait to receive a limited license to drive.

RI *1995 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chapters 164 and 217*
Outlines penalties for minors who refuse a chemical test after committing a motor vehicle offense and lowers the blood alcohol concentration to 0.02 percent for driving impaired.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 188*
Sec. 32A-12-209—Provides for the suspension or delay of driving privileges for violations of alcohol-related laws by juveniles.

Penalties/Procedures/Services/Offenses

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 918*
Sec. 3(e)—Requires the state to file a delinquency petition if a child knowingly possesses a weapon, intoxicating liquor, controlled substance, or any harmful, hazardous, or illegal item while in custody.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 90*
Sec. 2—Allows students to be suspended from school for possessing alcohol, illegal drugs, or a dangerous weapon, except a firearm while attending school. Requires alternative education and referral for intervention and treatment.

ID *1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, HB 718*
Establishes a penalty for those convicted of using or possessing specified controlled substances in public places, public conveyances, public roadways, and public parking lots.

ID *1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, HB 754*
Establishes adjudication procedures for juveniles who use or are under the influence of a controlled substance.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1216*
Authorizes a drug abuse resistance education surcharge be added when violations of certain state laws occur.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 198*
Requires a recipient of AFDC who is determined as having a substance abuse problem to complete a treatment program. Allows recipients to undergo drug-testing. Requires noncompliance to result in sanctions or termination of grant.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 372*
Allows for civil citations to people under 21 years of age possessing a card or document that falsely identifies the person's age. Establishes fines for first or subsequent offenses.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 441*
Prohibits an adult from knowingly and willfully allowing an underage individual to possess or consume an alcoholic beverage at the adult's residence.

MI	*1995 Mich. Pub. Acts, Act 95* Establishes penalties for those 17 years or older who recruit, induce, solicit or coerce a minor to be involved in the manufacture, delivery, or possession with intent to deliver controlled substances.
MO	*1996 Mo. Laws, SB 722* Outlines the procedures for suspending and revoking the drivers' license of minors who have "zero tolerance" or 0.02 percent blood alcohol content. Requires a Substance Abuse Traffic Offender Program be completed before the license is reinstated.
MO	*1996 Mo. Laws, HB 1298 and 1301* *Sec.* B. 302.272—Authorizes the state to deny a school bus permit to any applicant who has committed certain drug or weapons offenses.
NC	*1996 N.C. Sess. Laws, HB 53* *Sec.* 20.13 (c) (5)—Increases the punishment to a Class D felony for the sale or delivery of a controlled substance by a person over age 18 to a person under age 16 or a pregnant female.
OH	*1995 Ohio Laws, SB 2* *Sec.* 3313.662—Makes major revisions in the penalties for certain drug offenses.
OH	*1996 Ohio Laws, Am. Sub. HB 1* *Sec.* 2933.44 (A), (B)—Defines "juvenile-related forfeiture order." Requires 10 percent of proceeds of all property ordered forfeited by a juvenile court be applied to certified alcohol and drug addiction treatment programs. Requires each certified drug and alcohol addiction treatment program that receives funds to file an annual report.
PR	*1996 Puerto Rico Laws, PC 1603* Makes it a crime to possess or sell illegal drugs on school or recreational property.
SC	*1996 S.C. Acts, Act 290* Makes it a felony for a person at least age 18 to knowingly and intentionally use, coerce, or employ a person under age 18 to commit a violent crime or to distribute cocaine, crack cocaine, heroin, marijuana, or LSD. Sentences violators to imprisonment between five and 15 years.
TN	*1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 888* Requires school boards to develop policies and procedures to discipline any student who possesses drugs, drug paraphernalia, or a dangerous weapon or who is under the influence of a drug or assaults or threatens to assault a teacher, student or other person at school or related events. Requires schools to notify law enforcement.
TN	*1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 988* Requires local education agencies to develop a code of acceptable behavior and discipline that addresses issues including substance abuse and drug sales. Requires expulsion for possession of illegal drugs.
VA	*1995 Va. Acts, Chap. 759* Requires school principals to report all incidents on school property involving assault, controlled substances, and possession of firearms.
WA	*1996 Wash. Laws, Chap. 133* *Sec.* 5—Requires school personnel to notify parents when referring a student to a chemical dependency inpatient treatment program. *Sec.* 7, 9—Requires crisis shelters to arrange transportation to a chemical dependency program of the parent's choice. Requires crisis center personnel to inform parents of the right to request a mental health or chemical evaluation and to receive treatment to address the child's at risk behavior. *Sec.* 34—Requires parental authorization to treat a child under age 13 in an outpatient chemical dependency program. Outlines circumstances to notify parents when treating children over age 13.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 99*
Sec. 17C-5-2—Amends penalties for serious traffic offenses related to driving under the influence of alcohol, controlled substances, or drugs and while having a child under the age of 16 in the vehicle at the time of the offense.

WY *1996 Wyo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 106*
Removes "minor in possession of alcohol" from the definition of status offense. Adds a substance abuse specialist to multidisciplinary teams responsible for recommending placement of court involved youth.

Prevention/Education

AK *1996 Alaska Sess. Laws, Chap. 12*
Expresses the state's policy with respect to sobriety.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 107*
Sec. 4—Requires school districts to identify students at risk of suspension or expulsion and to arrange intervention services that involve parents to include tutoring, substance abuse treatment, and family preservation.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 1038*
Establishes the criteria and those who may teach a curriculum of alcohol and drug courses in elementary and secondary public schools.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 101*
Sec. 1—Prohibits a liquor licensee or its employees from serving liquor to a minor or allowing a minor to consume liquor.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1216*
Sec. 31, 34—Creates a drug abuse resistance education surcharge on state and local violations of law.

MO *1996 Mo. Laws, SB 722*
Outlines the procedures for suspending and revoking the drivers' license of minors who have "zero tolerance" or 0.02 percent blood alcohol content. Requires a Substance Abuse Traffic Offender Program be completed before license is reinstated.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 734*
Permits ordering a substance abusive perpetrator of domestic violence, or one who violates a protective order, to attend counseling. Makes failure to comply punishable by contempt.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 988*
Requires local education agencies to develop a code of acceptable behavior and discipline that addresses issues including substance abuse and drug sales. Requires expulsion for possession of illegal drugs.

Tobacco Use Control

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 823*
Prohibits the sale or distribution of tobacco products from vending machines except when located 15 feet away from the entrance of premises. Enhances the Stop Tobacco Access to Kids Enforcement Act (STAKE Act), that reduces the availability of tobacco products to people under age 18.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, Act 240*
Establishes penalties for minors attempting to purchase tobacco products and increases the penalties for those selling tobacco products to minors.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, Chap. 318 (1996)*
Sec. 4—Defines and outlines procedures that change how the sale and distribution of tobacco products to minors are handled. Establishes penalties for the first offense as well as subsequent offenses.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 750*
Requires proper identification of a person while purchasing tobacco products when age is questionable.

HI	*1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 313* Sec. 1—Prohibits cigarettes from being sold or distributed from a lunch wagon within 1,000 feet of a school.
ID	*1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, HB 718* Imposes a tax on all tobacco products sold in state to fund toxicology testing by the Department of Law Enforcement.
KS	*1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 214* Defines where vending machines holding tobacco products may be located and how to make them inaccessible to minors including use of locking devices.
KY	*1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 38* Requires proof of age from a prospective tobacco product purchaser or recipient if the seller believes that the prospective purchaser or recipient is under age 18. Prohibits people under age 18 from purchasing or receiving a tobacco product or offering fraudulent proof of age. Directs .1 percent of one cent of the cigarette excise tax to state enforcement. Establishes and increases various fines.
ME	*1995 Me. Public Laws,* Clarifies the jurisdiction of the Administrative Court when enforcing violations of tobacco laws.
OK	*1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, Chap. 144* Creates the Prevention of Youth Access to Tobacco Act. Strengthens enforcement provisions that prevent minors from obtaining tobacco products. Allows retailers to use minors when determining whether stores are selling cigarettes to minors.
RI	*1995 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 77* Outlines procedures to prevent children from using vending machines selling tobacco products.

Family Assistance - Administration/General

AK *1996 Alaska Sess. Laws, Chap. 107*
Creates a dual track strategy for welfare reform: specifies program guidelines in anticipation of federal reform, while outlining waivers that will be pursued without federal legislation.

Creates a diversion program providing a single payment of up to two months of AFDC for job-ready individuals, in lieu of receiving ongoing cash assistance benefits.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 284*
Requires fingerprinting and criminal history background checks for specified county welfare department employees who have frequent contact with children. Prohibits contact in cases involving a sex offense against a minor.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 306*
Sec. 3, 7—Requires counties to submit a plan describing the services provided to manpower recipients reflecting available resources, job market needs, job placement goals, and target groups to be served. Requires counties to prioritize employment services to target populations beginning with existing participants, then expending 55 percent of funds on recipients on assistance 36 of the last 60 months, and parents under 24 with little or no work experience or a without a high school diploma.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 883*
Revises procedures for GAIN implementation. Establishes eligibility criteria and specifies county administration. Outlines eligibility and procedures for county reimbursement.

CA *1996 Cal. Stats., Chap. 462*
Allows Los Angeles County to implement a pilot program to distribute sex education, HIV/AIDS, drug use, pregnancy and family planning during the application or recertification process.

CA *1996 Cal. Stats., Chap. 521*
Allows counties to divert 20 percent job program funding (GAIN) to establish pilot projects to provide employment-related services to nonfederal target populations. Specifies procedures and guidelines.

CA *1996 Cal. Stats., Chap. 838*
Allows counties to provide direct payments on behalf of recipients to utility or shelter providers if the recipient has mismanaged their grant or failed to pay rent within the past 12 months. Allows recipients to request such payments.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, P.A. 268*
Sec. 7—Requires a biweekly list of AFDC, food stamp, Medicaid, and SSI recipients for the Labor Department to verify new employees.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 175*
Sec. 1—Creates Work and Gain Economic Self-Sufficiency (WAGES) as a nonentitlement program for short-term assistance to families and to assist them to become self-sufficient.

Sec. 7-9—Requires a statewide plan for implementing WAGES, local coalitions to plan and coordinate service delivery, and coordination to create one-stop job referral and benefit centers.

Sec. 10 (11)—Creates welfare reform legislation in anticipation of federal reform allowing for waivers if federal reforms do not pass.

Sec. 19—Creates diversion grants equal to two months of assistance. Restricts a family from applying for additional assistance for three months.

Sec. 27—Requires the development of integrated service delivery strategies related to welfare reform and child welfare services.

Sec. 57—Requires that at least 75 percent of state prekindergarten program slots be set aside for disadvantaged 4-year-olds with parents who work or who are in the WAGES program.

Sec. 73—Establishes priorities for subsidized child care funds, including children who are in need of protective services, at-risk of welfare dependency, with migrant or teen parents, or those whose families are under the poverty line, or with working families under 150 percent of the poverty line.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 1219*
Sec. 4—Establishes compliance standards if federal block grants are enacted.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1106*
Sec. 1—Terminates the family investment agreement when cash assistance ends. Requires a new application if recipient reapplies. Reinstates the original agreement if recipient reapplies within one month.

Sec. 16—Requires the determination of the immunization status of children served by the family investment program and requires referral to local public health agencies for services.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 198*
Requires a recipient determined as having a substance abuse problem to complete a treatment program. Allows recipients to undergo drug-testing. Allows for sanctions or termination of grant if recipient does not comply.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 151*
Sec. 38—Requires a monthly listing of lottery winners to identify winners on public assistance.

MI *1995 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 223*
Sec. 1, 6, 45, 57a—Replaces the State Department of Social Services with the Family Independence Agency (FIA) and establishes the Family Independence Program to administer financial assistance to eligible families. Directs FIA to establish eligibility rules, payment standards and to administer employment programs and work training projects.

Requires collaboration between the Michigan JOBS Commission and the FIA to administer the Work First employment program. Requires recipients of family assistance to complete a responsibility contract to outline compliance goals. The contract requires recipients to engage in 20 hours per week of employment or employment activities and to participate in substance abuse treatment if applicable.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 465*
Sec. 2—Requires the commissioner to develop a proposal for the Legislature to implement federal welfare changes. Allows for county collaboration. Allows counties to develop and implement the jobs program to require immediate work participation. Requires collaboration from county agencies, employers, and organizations.

MO *1996 Mo. Laws, SB 869*
Sec. 208.220—Allows the commissioner to deduct pay from public assistance recipients who are state employees for any amounts owed as a result of benefit overpayment.

NH *1995 N.H. Laws, Chap. 310*
Sec. 167:77—Establishes the Family Assistance Program administered by the state employment agency to replace AFDC and provide financial and employment assistance.

NH *1996 N.H. Laws, Act 178*
Sec. 268.a—Outlines a procedure for the governor to seek legislative review of executive spending of new federal block grants.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 301*
Requires state reimbursement to political subdivisions for the administration and supervision of workfare programs.

OH *1995 Ohio Laws, HB 167*
Sec. 5101.94-.95—Continues obligation of AFDC recipients to provide proof of immunization for children. Establishes sanctions for noncompliance.

Sec. 5111.017—Requires the establishment of a drug abuse assessment and treatment referral program for Medicaid recipients who are pregnant and required to participate in managed care. Requires such recipients to be screened for drug use at their first prenatal exam. Requires sanctions if recipients fail to participate in assessment and treatment.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 20*
Sec. 9—Denies benefits to recipients who fail to make criminal court appearances. Requires court to cooperate with department.

RI *1996 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 129*
Sec. 1, 4—Sets eligibility requirements for family assistance. Defines case manager objectives and requires interdepartmental cooperation.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, P.A. 950*
Sec. 5—Allows the department of health to conduct home visits to families whose assistance has terminated to ensure the welfare of children.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 147*
Sec. 6—Creates a diversion program providing a single payment of up to three months of AFDC.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 316*
Requires collaboration to provide services that enable recipients of public assistance to qualify for affordable housing and inform recipients about programs for home ownership.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 289*
Establishes a nonentitlement work program that replaces AFDC. Creates graduated employment positions by which benefit amounts increase as recipients advance in a job placement. Specifies financial and nonfinancial eligibility requirements. Requires the department to establish performance standards.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 259*
Creates a one-time AFDC diversion payment not to exceed three months of cash assistance.

Creates a mandatory work program for AFDC recipients. Requires interagency and department coordination for service delivery, shared information, and streamlined application procedures. Allows the secretary to establish the program as one or more pilot projects.

WY *1996 Wyo. Sess. Laws, Act 111*
Sec. 1—Requires nonexempt recipients to complete a self-sufficiency plan. Applies sanctions for failing to complete or comply with the plan.

Family Assistance - Eligibility/Benefit Levels

AK *1996 Alaska Sess. Laws, Chap. 107*
Sec. 47.27.025 (c) (d)—Reduces the shelter allowance for families with shelter costs lower than the standard. Reduces assistance by 50 percent in July, August, and September for families whose eligibility is based on unemployment of the principal wage earner.

Sec. 54—Requires a decrease in assistance levels by Jan. 1, 2000, if total state outlays for cash assistance in FY 1999 are not less than state outlays in FY 1997 and the Legislature has not otherwise adjusted assistance levels in the meantime.

DC *1996 D.C. Law 11-72*
Sec. 201—Disregards earned income of $100 plus 50 percent of assets up to $4,500, to increase annually at the same rate as the consumer price index.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, SB 102 (1996)*
Sec. 11—Requires the department to establish rules and regulations regarding eligibility and benefit levels. Requires cooperation with child support efforts to maintain eligibility.

Sec. 20—Allows the department to establish sanctions for noncompliance with work activities.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 175*
Sec. 11, 13—Increases asset limit to $2,000 and excludes $8,500 value of vehicles used to complete training, employment, or education requirements. Excludes the total value of a vehicle used to transport a disabled family member. Disregards first $200 plus 50 percent of remaining earned income.

Sec. 13, 17—Requires cooperation with child support enforcement and immunization of children as a condition of eligibility.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 300*
Sec. 3-4—Increases asset disregard to $5,000, exempts value of one motor vehicle and disregards 20 percent plus $200 from earned income. Changes calculation formula for standard of need.

Sec. 2—Expands the definition of exempt household to include incapacitated adults, caretakers of incapacitated people, a person over age 65, a parent or relative of a child under school age unless the Human Services Department provides child care, non needy, and single parent caring for a child under 8 weeks old.

Sec. 4—Authorizes the Human Services Department to increase work incentives by reducing benefit levels for families subject to work requirements.

ID *1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, Chap. 50*
Sec. 6—Requires the department to establish eligibility requirements for AFDC recipients.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 351*
Sec. 49—Disregards 20 percent of earnings for employment in any month when calculating assistance amount. Eases eligibility requirements for two-parent families.

MI *1995 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 223*
Sec. 57a—Requires the agency to establish eligibility criteria and payment standards for the new cash assistance program.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 465*
Sec. 13 and 14—Requires the state to determine eligibility for cash assistance according to the Code of Federal Regulations once block grant funding replaces AFDC. Specifies residency requirements in determining eligibility.

NH *1995 N.H. Laws, Chap. 310*
Sec. 167:80 and 81—Disregards one vehicle when determining eligibility. Allows the department to establish resource limits and other income exclusions.

OH *1995 Ohio Laws, HB 167*
Sec. 5107.31, 32, 33 and 71—Requires adult AFDC caretaker recipient to sign personal responsibility contract as a condition of eligibility. Requires recipients under contract to comply with all AFDC requirements, including the JOBS program and other education and work activities. Disregards the first $250 and 50 percent of the remaining earned income. Adopts the same auto exclusion as food stamp program. Requires AFDC recipients to cooperate with establishing paternity and child support to qualify for assistance. Ends assistance for noncompliance. Terminates eligibility for AFDC, transitional child care and Medicaid to recipients who leave employment without good cause.

PA *1996 Pa. Laws, Act 35*
Sec. 6—Requires recipients to remain substance free as a condition of eligibility, including participation in a treatment program and submission to periodic drug testing for certain recipients. Requires recipients to immunize children and allows the department to require recipients to engage in parenting activities.

Sec. 9, 11—Limits assistance for new residents to the lesser of the maximum benefit amount available in either state. Disregards 50 percent of earned income and exempts one auto in determining eligibility.

Sec. 14—Reduces assistance payment by amount obtained by cashing check in a gambling casino, racetrack, bingo hall, or other establishment that derives more than 50 percent of its gross revenues from gambling.

Prevents granting assistance eligibility until the applicant's cooperation with paternity and support is established. Requires a presumption of noncooperation by the mother for failing to name the father that is rebuttable only by clear and convincing evidence. Provides for appeals.

RI *1996 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 129*
Sec. 8—Requires recipients to establish paternity and cooperate with child support enforcement.

Applies a 30 percent reduction in benefits for recipients who have resided in the state for less than one year.

Excludes $1,000 in assets, the first $4,600 of auto equity in determining eligibility, and disregards $170 and 50 percent of earned income in grant calculation.

Sec. 9, 25—Authorizes the department to provide emergency assistance to AFDC families, not to exceed $200. Creates a diversion payment up to three times the cash assistance grant.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, P.A. 950*
Sec. 5—Requires recipients to immunize children, make sure children have regular health check ups, and ensure that children attend school. Requires cooperation with paternity establishment and child support enforcement efforts.

Sec. 5, 33—Establishes eligibility criteria for the Families First Program. Disregards equity of one auto up to $4,600.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 147*
Disregards the first $100 and 50 percent of remaining earned income in determining monthly grants.

VT *1996 Vt. Acts, Act 178*
Sec. 138—Allows the secretary to implement a 3 percent reduction in benefits paid to AFDC recipients for pregnant women with no children if their child is due within the next 30 days and for those women whose child is due within three-months if they are receiving AFDC benefits on the basis of their pregnancy.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 289*
Sec. 86—Establishes financial and nonfinancial eligibility standards including asset disregards of $2,500, auto exemption of up $10,000, and all income at or below 115 percent of the poverty line, including child support. Provides a uniform grant based on employment level rather than family size. Requires cooperation with child support enforcement.

Establishes a job access loan to address immediate financial needs. Specifies eligibility criteria and allows the department to determine terms of the loan.

Sec. 89—Calculates benefits for subsidized jobs at market wage (not less than minimum wage) times number of hours worked, not to exceed 40. Includes time spent in education or training activities as part of the actual hours worked. Calculates benefits for community service positions at $555 per month, and benefits for transitional placements at $518 per month. Sanctions grant by $4.25 per hour of missed participation. Allows financial and employment planner to determine good cause for nonparticipation, including domestic abuse or court appearances.

Allows one parent in a two-parent family to participate in a W-2 job placement and allows the other to participate in employment training and job search assistance.

Sec. 86, 89—Restricts eligibility to parents older than 18. Allows parents under 18 to meet with a financial and employment planner to discuss child care, family planning services, community resources, and eligibility for food stamps and other food and nutrition programs.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 259*
Sec. 4—Increases asset limit to $5,000.

WY *1996 Wyo. Sess. Laws, Act 69*
Sec. 1—Establishes an earned income disregard of $200 and limits assets to $2,500. Exempts the market value of a vehicle up to $12,000.

Family Assistance - Employment Related Policies

AK *1996 Alaska Sess. Laws, Chap. 107*
Sec. 47.27.035—Requires cash assistance recipients to perform work activities assigned by the state to retain eligibility after 24 months of assistance, including community services, work-related training programs, high school or GED completion.

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 306*
Sec. 2, 8—Requires recipients to register for employment services as a condition of eligibility, with exemptions. Lists allowable work activities and good cause for nonparticipation. Specifies hours of participation in employment services, not to exceed 32 hours per week. Requires development of an employment plan to describe the recipients' activities and goals.

Sec. 25—Requires participants who have received cash assistance for 22 of the last 24 months, or are not employed for more than 15 hours per week to participate in 100 hours per month of community service. Establishes sanctions for noncompliance.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 221*
Authorizes grants of up to $25,000 each to community-based agencies to provide training and education to welfare recipients so they can become child care workers.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, Act 262*
Sec. 2—Allows welfare recipients to use vouchers for job placement in child care centers, homes, and preschools.

DC *1996 D.C. Law 11-72*
Sec. 201—Adds eligibility for AFDC for two-parent families if one parent is unemployed.

Sec. 310—Extends transitional Medicaid to 24 months.

Sec. 567—Expands community service programs to serve a larger pool of AFDC recipients. Directs the department to use savings to enter into agreements with private employers to train and guarantee job placement of AFDC recipients.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, SB 102 (1996)*
Sec. 25—Requires state and public agencies to contact the department when there is surplus work that could be performed by welfare recipients.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 175*
Sec. 10—Requires immediate participation in a work activity for a minimum number of hours per week, including nonsubsidized employment, subsidized employment, on-the-job training, community service, job search/job readiness, vocational education or training, or a combination as work activity. Limits vocational education to no more than 20 percent of participants and limits the primary work activity to less than 12 months. Allows for certain exemptions and terminates assistance for noncompliance.

Allows the department to enter into a performance-based contract to provide funds for vocational or training providers on behalf of a participant, payable on completion of the program and employment and retention of participant.

Grants incentive payments to employers who provide employment for hard-to-place recipients. Grants a property tax credit for employers who provide jobs for recipients.

Sec. 13—Requires noncitizens who receive assistance to participate in work activities and requires the department to verify citizenship for recipients.

Sec. 24, 25—Extends transitional Medicaid and child care to 24 months.

GA *1995 Ga. Laws, Act 479*
Sec. 1—Grants a tax credit from 20 percent to 40 percent of the first $7,000 of wages for employers who hire AFDC recipients.

Sec. 2—Creates the JOBS First Program in 10 counties as a mandatory subsidized employment program. Requires recipients to accept a job position, denies benefits for recipients who do not participate. Continues Medicaid eligibility and provides child care for participants. Extends transitional Medicaid to 24 months. Requires employers to pay at least minimum wage.

ID *1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, Chap. 39*
Entitles AFDC recipients participating in work experience or training to worker's compensation.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 1219*
Sec. 2—Prohibits expenditure of federal funds received from block grants from replacing federal employment and training programs without approval from the committee on budget.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 351*
Sec. 51—Requires an adult to participate in a work activity after the family has received benefits for two years.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 379*
Sec. 1—Allows an employer entitled to a tax credit, a credit up to 30 percent for the first $6,000 paid to an employee who is employed for less than a year and who terminates employment to take another job. Requires the employer tax credit to be proportional to the time the employee worked, if employment is terminated for other reasons.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 151*
Sec. 523—Adds education, training, or community service to the list of allowable activities in the welfare-to-work program for which the state will pay child care.

MI *1995 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 223*
Sec. 57e and f—Requires adult recipients to participate in Work First. Requires adult recipients to engage in 20 hours per week of employment, Work First activities, education and training, self improvement or community service activities.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 465*
Sec. 1—Allows counties to develop and implement the jobs program to require immediate work participation of recipients. Requires collaboration from county agencies, employers, and organizations. Defines program guidelines.

Sec. 1—Allows the commissioner to require both parents in a two-parent family to participate in work activities. Exempts for one year a parent attending a postsecondary program.

Sec. 1, 4—Requires participants in the jobs program to attend an orientation and to develop employment plans specifying the work activities to be completed, including job search activities for 30-hours per week for up to 4 weeks. Allows recipients who lack basic literacy skills, or a high school diploma or equivalent to be required to attend adult basic education. Limits post secondary education as a work activity to two years. Requires work in a community service position after 24 months of assistance if recipient is not employed. Allows exemptions for participating in a substance abuse program or for a victim of domestic violence.

NH *1995 N.H. Laws, Chap. 310*
Sec. 167:79, 82, 85, 91—Requires participants to develop employment contracts. Requires participation in a work activity if employment has not been obtained after 26 weeks of documented job search. Allows the department to determine sanctions. Requires commissioner to reimburse participants for travel, child care and other support services. Allows the commissioner to refer participants to a training agency, or postsecondary education program designed to enhance the employability of a participant. Requires part-time employment if a postsecondary program is considered to be halftime.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 81*
Sec. 190—Requires recipients to participate in JOBS. Sanctions districts who do not comply with placement standards.

OH *1995 Ohio Laws, HB 167*
Sec. 5101.81, 5101.84—Requires employable recipients, as a condition for receiving AFDC, to participate in JOBS at least 20 hours per week. Allows the department to include job development, education, or training as a component of the JOBS program and to establish requirements for participation.

Sec. 5101.87—Creates the LEARN program, as a JOBS component, under which an AFDC recipient may be assigned to an unpaid internship for up to six months. Requires a contract between an employer and department defining the rights and responsibilities of the recipient, county, department, and employer.

Sec. 5101.88—Establishes new, graduated sanctions for employable AFDC recipients who fail to comply with JOBS requirements.

Sec. 5107.033-.034—Eliminates the 100-hour work rule and federal work history requirement.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 20*
Sec. 1, 3—Creates a demonstration project that mandates that AFDC recipients work. Provides a subsidy for employers who provide jobs for recipients. Requires workfare for recipients who have not found employment. Establishes sanctions and termination for noncompliance.

PA *1996 Pa. Laws, Act 35*
Sec. 5, 6—Requires immediate job search and participation in an employment activity. Provides exemptions. Requires a responsibility contract, specifying work activities. Reduces or discontinues grant for noncompliance.

Sec. 7—Allows the department to provide a wage subsidy to employers who hire AFDC recipients. Limits employers with under 10 employees to one recipient placement. Employers with more than 10 employees may provide placements at 10 percent of the number of employees.

Sec. 8—Allows the department to provide child care, transportation, and work support assistance to enable recipients to complete employment activities.

RI *1996 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 129*
Sec. 4, 8, 17—Requires recipients and case managers to complete an employability plan within 45 days, specifying the activities to be completed. Requires 20 hours per week of paid employment, community service, training, or work readiness in the first 24 months. Sanctions for noncompliance begin in 25th month. Exempts recipients involved in vocational training, or who lack basic education. Directs that child care and transportation assistance be provided by the department.

Sec. 24—Allows noncustodial parents of children receiving AFDC to participate in job training, education, and literacy programs.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 452*
Sec. 13—Establishes criteria for exempting recipients from participating in employment and training.

Sec. 14—Requires the department to seek funds for entrepreneurial development for AFDC recipients, and to identify markets and provide recipients with job skills and opportunities to develop expertise at operating a business. Requires collaboration between the department, public, private, and community entities.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 886*
Sec. 3—Allows business development accounts up to $5,000 for recipients.

Sec. 4—Allows self-employment to be considered the same as a job if income divided by the minimum wage equals at least 20 hours per week. Requires enrollment in a program that provides entrepreneurship training, technical assistance, and peer support.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, P.A. 950*
Sec. 5—Requires recipients to participate in a work activity as a condition of eligibility. Requires a recipient to sign a responsibility contract specifying work activities. Specifies acceptable work activities. Provides child care and transportation assistance. Provides 18 months of transitional child care for recipients who lose AFDC eligibility because of employment.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 147*
Sec. 7, 9, 12—Requires AFDC recipients to complete an employment plan outlining work, education and training requirements, paternity information, and completion dates. Allows the plan to include a requirement for the state to provide financial, employment, and child care assistance.

Sec. 8—Requires the department to provide a job help program to help AFDC recipients solve problems, set goals, manage stress, and increase self-esteem. Allows program participation to be part of the required employment plan. Allows the department to contract with providers to operate the program.

Sec. 14—Creates a target for the placement of 12,000 AFDC recipients in full-time employment by July 2000. Directs the department to recruit private sector employers to hire recipients.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 289*
Sec. 87, 89—Creates subsidized, community service, and transitional employment positions for recipients and specifies placement criteria and preference. Requires immediate participation in a placement. Allows employers to receive a wage subsidy of up to $300 and requires payment of workers' compensation. Requires community service participants to work up to 30 hours per week and participate in education or training activities for up to 10 hours per week. Requires transitional placements to work up to 28 hours per week and participate in education or training up to 12 hours per week. Exempts parents of children under 12 weeks. Establishes sanctions for noncompliance. Allows public transportation assistance. Requires department to establish criteria for employers who provide positions.

Sec. 89—Allows eligibility for jobs services to noncustodial parents who are subject to a child support order.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 259*
Requires recipients who have completed high school or the equivalent and those over age 20 to participate in 20 hours per week of education, training, work, or work activities to retain eligibility. Defines work activities in the responsibility contract, and requires them to be based on the recipient's past work experience.

Eliminates 100-hour rule and work force attachment for two-parent families.

Requires recipients to complete a personal responsibility contract based on work force attachment. The contract will define work or employment activities to be completed by recipient. Applies benefit sanctions and termination for recipients who do not comply with the terms of the responsibility contract.

WY *1996 Wyo. Sess. Laws, Act 111*
Sec. 1—Exempts full-time students taking 12 or more credits per semester from work or community service requirements. Limits participation in an educational program to receive a bachelor's degree. Requires recipients to maintain a "C" or equivalent cumulative grade point average in an approved educational program.

Family Assistance - Family Cap/Child Exclusion

DC *1996 D.C. Law 11-72*
Sec. 552—Denies increased benefits to a family who has additional children after the initial 10 months of eligibility, with exceptions for rape and incest. Allows parent to retain entire amount of child support collected on behalf of the excluded child and disregards amount when determining eligibility and grant payment.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 175*
Sec. 15—Grants one-half of the increment for the first child born while receiving assistance. Eliminates the increment for additional children.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 351*
Sec. 50—Prohibits an increase in cash assistance benefits for children born more than 10 months after the initial application for benefits. Provides a child-specific benefit for an ineligible child not to exceed, when combined with any child support payments for the child, the value of the eliminated increment.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, P.L. 950*
Sec. 5—Denies an increase in assistance for families who have additional children after the initial receipt of assistance.

WY *1996 Wyo. Sess. Laws, Act 111*
Sec. 1—Denies incremental benefits to a family who has additional children after initial 10 months of eligibility.

Family Assistance - Fraud/EBT

AZ *1996 Ariz. Sess. Laws, Chap. 346*
Establishes a finger imaging program for AFDC and General Assistance to detect fraud. Requires adult recipients of AFDC and General Assistance to participate.

CA *1996 Cal. Stats., Chap. 667*
Allows counties administering public assistance to deny eligibility to people who have committed fraud.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, SB 102 (1995)*
Sec. 11—Denies assistance to individuals who conveyed or transferred real or personal property worth $500 or more within two years of application or while on assistance.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 175*
Sec. 13—Denies assistance for 10 years after conviction for receiving benefits simultaneously in two states.

IN *1996 Ind. Acts, Act 449*
Requires the establishment of an electronic benefits transfer system for food stamp and AFDC benefit payments. Defines division and vendor responsibilities.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1106*
Sec. 15—Adds the use of a benefit transfer instrument to the category of fraudulent practices in the determination of food stamp fraud.

ME *1995 Me. Public Laws, Chap. 0675*
Authorizes the department to establish an electronic benefits transfer system for AFDC, food stamps, and Medicaid.

MI *1995 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 223*
Sec. 57g—Directs the Family Independence Agency to develop penalties and sanctions for recipients who fail to comply with the responsibility contract, or who commit fraud. Allows grant reduction or termination.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 465*
Sec. 1—Restricts cash assistance checks from being cashed at gaming establishments. Restricts the use of benefit transaction cards at terminals located within gaming establishments.

Sec. 1, 4—Allows public assistance funds to be paid in the form of a check, electronic benefit transfer, or direct deposit. Allows overpayment errors made by an automated teller to be recovered by immediate withdrawal from a recipient's account.

NC *1996 N.C. Sess. Laws, HB 53*
Sec. 24.30—Specifies collection procedures in cases of fraud. Makes it a misdemeanor for fraudulently obtaining $400 or less in food stamp benefits, and a felony for collecting $400 or more in food stamp benefits.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 81*
Sec. 166—Establishes sanctions for recipients who commit fraud.

OH *1995 Ohio Laws, HB 167*
Sec. 5107.041—Terminates AFDC assistance to the family if any member receives a fraudulent payment. Reinstates eligibility if the benefits are repaid and the family meets AFDC eligibility requirements.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 20*
Sec. 4—Establishes a technology-based system to detect multiple enrollments. Allows information-sharing with law enforcement. Requires collaboration with other states to develop a compatible crossmatching system.

PA *1996 Pa. Laws, Act 35*
Sec. 17—Prohibits applicants or recipients of AFDC or general assistance convicted of fraud from receiving benefits for six months upon first conviction, 12 months upon second conviction.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, P.A. 950*
Sec. 11—Allows the commissioner to establish an electronic benefits transfer program to administer benefits.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 259*
Authorizes sanctions or termination if recipient is found to have committed fraud.

Family Assistance - School Attendance Requirements

AK *1996 Alaska Sess. Laws, Chap. 107*
Sec. 47.27.027—Requires minor parents to attend school. Reduces assistance for noncompliance.

CA *1996 Cal. Stats., Chap. 306*
Sec. 2—Requires teen parents to participate in an educational program that is expected to lead to a high school diploma or equivalent.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 216*
Requires teen parents to participate in the JOBS program for the purpose of obtaining a high school diploma or equivalent. Requires the department to give placement priority to minor parents.

DC *1996 D.C. Law 11-72*
Sec. 565—Requires teen parents to attend school full time. Sanctions teen parents with $50 in AFDC benefits for 10 or more full days, or 20 half days of unexcused absences. Requires the department to establish an incentive program to encourage school attendance.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 175*
Sec. 10 and 16—Requires teen parents and children of recipients to attend school if they have not received a high school diploma or equivalent. Reduces benefits for teen parents and children of recipients who accumulate a specified number of unexcused absences.

MI *1995 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 223*
Sec. 57e—Requires minor parents who have not completed high school or the equivalent, and children under 16, to attend school.

NH *1995 N.H. Laws, Chap. 310*
Sec. 167:79 and 90—Requires teen parents to complete high school, the equivalent or to participate in JOBS.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, 81*
Sec. 188—Requires children who receive AFDC or home relief who are enrolled in participating sites to attend school full-time.

OH *1995 Ohio Laws, HB 167*
Sec. 5107.34—Makes an applicant ineligible for AFDC upon reaching age 21, unless the applicant has, or is working toward a high school diploma, adult education diploma, or GED. Specifies exceptions.

PA *1996 Pa. Laws, Act 35*
Sec. 2 and 6—Requires adult recipients to ensure minor children attend school and pursue a high school diploma or the equivalent. Requires minor parents and children of recipients to attend school.

RI *1996 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 129*
Sec. 8—Requires minor parents to attend school or an equivalency program, and a parenting class.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, P.A. 950*
Sec. 5—Requires minor parent recipients to attend school if they have not received a high school diploma or the equivalent. Requires recipient's children to attend school.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 147*
Sec. 11—Requires minor parents to participate in parenting, child wellness, and life skills education 20 hours weekly, and attend school or participate in employment, training, or both.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 259*
Requires teen parents to complete high school or the equivalent, or to obtain vocational training. Requires satisfactory progress in an educational program.

WY *1996 Wyo. Sess. Laws, Act 111*
Sec. 1—Sets limits on educational goals for recipients who have not completed high school or the equivalent by the age of 20.

Family Assistance - Teen Parents

AK *1996 Alaska Sess. Laws, Chap. 107*
Sec. 47.27.027—Requires teen parents to live with a parent or in an adult supervised setting. Requires benefit payments to a minor's parent or guardian.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 216*
Requires teen parents to participate in the JOBS program for the purpose of obtaining a high school diploma or the equivalent. Requires the department to give placement priority to minor parents.

DC *1996 D.C. Law 11-72*
Sec. 563—Requires minor parents to live in an adult supervised environment, with exceptions.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 175*
Sec. 10, 13, and 16—Requires teen parents to live in an adult supervised setting if they have not received a high school diploma or the equivalent.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 351*
Sec. 50—Requires a minor parent recipient to live in a supervised arrangement, unless good cause is shown.

MI *1995 Mich. Pub. Acts, P.A. 223*
Sec. 57b—Requires minor parents to live in an adult-supervised household, with exceptions. Requires the agency to conduct a home visit before requiring a minor to live with a parent or guardian.

NH *1995 N.H. Laws, Chap. 310*
Sec. 167:79 and 90—Requires teen parents to reside with their parents or in an adult supervised setting.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 81*
Sec. 187—Requires minor parents to live with their parents or in an adult supervised setting.

OH *1995 Ohio Laws, HB 167*
Sec. 5107.31—Requires minor parents to live in an adult supervised setting, with exceptions.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 20*
Sec. 5—Requires minor parents to live with their parents or other adult, with exceptions. Provides assistance to be paid to the adult on behalf of the minor parent.

PA *1996 Pa. Laws, Act 35*
Sec. 9—Requires minor parents to live with their parents or in an adult supervised setting to retain eligibility.

RI *1996 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 129*
Sec. 8—Requires minor parents to live with their parents or in an adult supervised setting, with exceptions.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, P.A. 950*
Sec. 5—Requires minor parents to live with their parents or in an adult supervised setting, with exceptions.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 147*
Sec. 11—Requires minor parents to live with their parents, legal guardian, or other adult relative. Requires the minor to participate in parenting, child wellness, and life skills education 20 hours weekly and attend school or participate in employment, training, or both.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 289*
Sec. 86 and 89—Restricts eligibility for a W-2 employment position to parents older than 18. Allows parents under 18 to meet with a financial and employment planner to discuss child care services, family planning services, community resources, and eligibility for food stamps and other food and nutrition programs.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 259*
Requires teen parents to live in an adult supervised environment and to complete high school or the equivalent. Requires attendance in a parenting class or participation in a mentorship program.

WY *1996 Wyo. Sess. Laws, Act 111*
Sec. 1—Requires minor parent recipients to live in an adult supervised setting. Requires assistance payment to be paid to the minor parent's parent, or guardian.

Sec. 2—Directs the department to assist the family of minor parents in pursuing criminal charges against the father of a minor who conceived her child under age 16, if the father was at least four years older than the mother at the time of conception.

Family Assistance - Time Limits

AK *1996 Alaska Sess. Laws, Chap. 107*
Sec. 47.027.015—Disqualifies a family from assistance if it includes an adult who has already received 60 months of assistance. Exemptions include domestic violence and other hardships, up to a maximum percentage of those allowed by federal law.

Sec. 47.27.035—Requires work activities to maintain eligibility after 24 months of assistance.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 175*
Sec. 14—Limits benefits to 24 out of 60 months and a lifetime limit of 48 months with extensions based on hardship and cooperation with program requirements. Clarifies that for long-term recipients and those with poor job skills, the limit is 36 out of 60 months. Limits hardship exemptions to 10 percent of recipients in the first year, 15 percent in the second, and 20 percent in the third, and subsequent years. Clarifies that recipients moving from another state will receive the shorter time limit of the two states and assistance received in another state must be counted toward the limit.

ID *1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, Chap. 50*
Sec. 6—Permits the department to establish time limits on assistance.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 351*
Sec. 51—Eliminates the family's eligibility for cash assistance after five years. Creates a voucher program or representative payee for children in a family where the adult has received more than 60 months of benefits.

OH *1995 Ohio Laws, HB 167*
Sec. 5107.33—Limits AFDC assistance to 36 out of 60 months, with exceptions.

PA *1996 Pa. Laws, Act 35*
Sec. 5—Limits assistance to 24 months with extensions if the recipient is participating in at least 20 hours per week of an employment activity.

RI *1996 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 129*
Sec. 8—Limits assistance to 60 months if the federal 60-month limit is adopted.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, P.A. 950*
Sec. 5—Limits assistance to 18 continuous months and a lifetime limit of 60 months, with good cause extensions.

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UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 147*
Sec. 10—Limits assistance to 36 months with exceptions if a recipient is employed. Includes under time limit assistance accumulated in another state.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 289*
Sec. 86—Limits assistance to 60 months with extensions for unusual circumstances. Limits participation in individual subsidized jobs to three months, with extensions to six months. Limits participation in all subsidized jobs to 24 months, with possible extensions on a case-by-case basis. Limits participation in community service positions to 6 months, with extensions to nine months. Limits participation in all community service positions to 24 months. Permits extending assistance beyond 24 months on a case by case basis. Limits transitional placements to 24 months with extensions.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 259*
Specifies that duration of assistance to be defined in personal responsibility contract but may not exceed 60 months, with exceptions.

WY *1996 Wyo. Sess. Laws, Act 111*
Sec. 1—Limits AFDC assistance to five years, with extensions for additional year. Initiates limits for minor parents one year before reaching the age of majority.

General Assistance

AZ *1996 Ariz. Sess. Laws, Chap. 346*
Establishes a finger imaging program for AFDC and General Assistance to detect fraud. Requires adult recipients of AFDC and General Assistance to participate.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, P.A. 268*
Sec. 22—Eliminates General Assistance for employable and job-ready adults. Refers former recipients to the Department of Labor to receive a six-month grant not to exceed $600 if involved in job-placement activities. Defines employable and job-ready adults. Allows recipients with dependent children under 18 to continue to receive benefits.

DE *Vol. 70 Del. Laws, SB 102 (1995)*
Sec. 11—Requires the department to establish rules and regulations regarding eligibility and grant amounts for the general assistance program.

NY *1995 N.Y. Laws, Chap. 81*
Sec. 140—Gives home relief recipients who have successfully participated in a workfare program preference to participate in JOBS.

PA *1996 Pa. Laws, Act 289*
Clarifies the definition of disability for the purpose of determining eligibility for general assistance and excludes substance abuse as a disability. Limits general assistance to 24 months and requires appropriate medical treatment.

YOUTH-AT-RISK

General

CA *1995 Cal. Stats., Chap. 471*
Increases the number of counties from five to six that can participate in a five-year children's services pilot program to transfer funding for specific services into a single, blended children and family services fund. Extends program duration to July 1, 2002.

CA *1996 Cal. Stats., Chap. 216*
Requires foster care providers of adolescents in long-term foster care to provide pregnancy prevention information and to make sure that they receive referrals to health services upon emancipation. Requires the state to convene a working group to develop a pregnancy prevention plan.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 230*
Sec. 1-4—Requires the state auditor to conduct programmatic reviews and evaluations of all state prevention and intervention programs and specifies procedures for reporting to appropriate legislative committees, state agencies, and the governor.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, Act 226*
Requires that the majority of neighborhood youth center grants be awarded to cities and nonprofit agencies that provide athletic or recreational programs, enrichment and tutoring. Requires programs to be located in the neighborhoods they serve, to involve parents, and collaborate with other children's agencies.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 234*
Creates the youth trust fund for grants on juvenile justice reform including prevention and treatment and to promote state local partnerships.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 134*
Creates a state office on school-to-work to convene business, labor, education, and government representatives to develop curriculum models and evaluate and disseminate findings.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 358*
Sec. 1—Requires the Department of Juvenile Justice to develop and administer programs regarding youthful offenders and children at risk.

MA *1996 Mass. Acts, Chap. 151*
Sec. 587—Requires the establishment of a public-private partnership to link high school students with economic and learning opportunities as part of the school-to-work program.

VT *1996 Vt. Acts, Act 178*
Sec. 301,302—Changes the definition of "unmanageable child" and the age limit to under 16. Requires the use of community resources before judicial intervention.

WA *1996 Wash. Laws, Chap. 131*
Sec. 1—Creates a legislative children's oversight committee and an office of the family and children's ombudsman to monitor policies and programs, especially for children in state care.

Missing and Homeless Children/Runaways/Curfews

AK *1996 Alaska Sess. Laws, Chap. 120*
Sec. 2—Creates an affirmative defense for aiding a runaway.

Sec. 3, 5, 7-10—Outlines circumstances under which a law enforcement officer is authorized to take a youngster to a shelter. Directs the officer to give high priority to a semi-secure facility and to advise the youth of mediation services. Defines semi-secure, prompt notification to the state and requires certain programs to maintain semi-secure space in their facilities.

Sec. 7—Requires programs for runaways to determine appropriate services for family reunification.

AK *1996 Alaska Sess. Laws, Chap. 59*
Sec. 7—Grants authority to municipalities to adopt curfew ordinances.

DC *1995 D.C. Law 11-48*
Establishes a juvenile curfew, imposes parental responsibility for violations and prohibits a teen from operating a motor vehicle after midnight.

ID *1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, HB 596*
Creates a pilot statewide clearinghouse for missing persons.

IA *1996 Iowa Acts, Chap. 1219*
Sec. 68-69—Authorizes counties and nonprofits to establish assessment and treatment centers for chronic runaways. Requires treatment services including family counseling. Specifies procedures for release and parental involvement. Requires release to either the parent or shelter care within 48 hours.

Sec. 75—Prohibits a person from sheltering a runaway child with the intention of allowing the child to remain away from home against the wishes of a parent. Exempts licensed shelter care homes.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 492*
Requires certain state buildings to reserve space to display pictures of children abducted in noncustody related cases.

MI *1996 Mich. Pub. Acts, Act 39*
Establishes a missing children information clearinghouse.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 408*
Sec. 3 Art. 2—Permits development and operation of a safe house program in Fergus Falls for children in danger.

UT *1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 245*
Requires individuals who shelter runaways to promptly notify social services or the child's parent or legal guardian. Makes failure to notify a misdemeanor.

WA *1996 Wash. Laws, Chap. 133*
Sec. 7—Requires a crisis center to notify the state when a child is admitted and to provide transportation to a certified mental health or chemical dependency program of the parent's choice.

Sec. 8—Sets a time limit on how long a child can spend in one or more secure or semi-secure crisis centers. Clarifies considerations for removing a child from a crisis residential center. Requires administrators to inform parents of the right to request a mental health or chemical evaluation and to receive treatment to address the child's behavior.

Sec. 9—Defines crisis residential center as a secure or semi-secure facility and defines administrator.

Sec. 10-11—Requires crisis centers to provide the state and people or agencies receiving the child with a copy of the law enforcement report explaining why the child was taken into custody.

Sec. 11—Allows a parent to request that their child be taken to a crisis residential center and directs the transporting officer to deliver that child to one closest to the parent's home. Specifies placement options when a crisis residential center is unavailable.

Sec. 14, 18, 20-27—Requires the state to notify the parent of a runaway child's whereabouts and to offer services to resolve the conflict and reunify the family. Allows a child or parent to file a child in need of services petition when they cannot agree to an out-of-home placement and outlines procedures.

Sec. 28-29—Allows the court to place a runaway who has violated a placement order in detention. Allows the court to place runaway youth who need specialized treatment in secure care. Requires that parents be informed of the right to request treatment for such children.

Sec. 34—Requires a report on the number of times children are released without a placement and the state declines to accept custody.

Sec. 39—Requires the state to establish contracts with private vendors for transitional living programs for dependent youth who are being emancipated as part of their permanency plan.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 77*
Creates a new juvenile code for youth alleged to have violated a criminal, civil, or municipal law or who are alleged to be uncontrollable, dropouts, or habitually truant from home or school.

School Drop-Outs/Suspension/School Safety/Truancy

AK *1996 Alaska Sess. Laws, Chap. 59*
Sec. 3—Requires school districts to establish truancy prevention programs.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 107*
Sec. 22-33-106.5, 24-72-204 (3)(c)—Allows information on disciplinary actions to be sent to other schools. Allows principals to share disciplinary information with teachers and counselors who work with the student. Requires notification to schools when students are adjudicated or convicted of certain offenses.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 230*
Sec. 6 (19-1-301)—Authorizes state agencies and the judicial department to exchange certain information with each other and school personnel. Requires a consent form for voluntary exchange, and specifies procedures in involuntary cases. Consolidates all records provisions in the children's code.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 283*
Sec. 19-2-508 (3) (a) (VI)—Requires the court to notify the school district in which a juvenile is enrolled if it orders release of the juvenile from preadjudication detention and requires the juvenile to attend school.

Sec. 22-33-207.5 (1)—Requires a school district to notify the juvenile court if a student fails to attend all or any part of a school day, where the school district has received notice from the court that the student is required to attend school as a condition of release or sentence.

CO *1996 Colo. Sess. Laws, Chap. 292*
Sec. 22-33-105—Caps the time period for suspension. Requires a hearing and a reasonable effort be made to meet with parents. Redefines "habitually disruptive student" and outlines procedures. Defines dangerous weapon for the purpose of the mandatory expulsion statute.

Sec. 22-37-101—Authorizes: (1) grants to provide ways to manage suspended students; and (2) the establishment of pilot schools for expelled and at-risk students in grades six through nine.

CT *1996 Conn. Acts, Act 226*
Requires that the majority of neighborhood youth center grants be awarded to cities and nonprofit agencies that provide athletic or recreational programs, enrichment and tutoring. Programs must be located in the neighborhoods they serve, involve parents, and collaborate with other children's agencies.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, Chap. 382*
Sec. 1 (1)—Requires the sheriff's office and the Department of Juvenile Justice to participate in a juvenile assessment center or with the district school board in a suspension program.

FL *1996 Fla. Laws, SB 156*
Sec. 8-21—Clarifies notification to schools and criminal justice agencies and release procedures for juvenile records.

GA *1996 Ga. Laws, Act 926*
Sec. 1—Authorizes the Department of Children and Youth Services to notify the school, or the superintendent of the school system in that the child was enrolled, of a child's release from confinement or custody and the delinquent or felony act committed.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 90*
Allows students to be suspended from school for possessing alcohol, illegal drugs, or a dangerous weapon, except a firearm while attending school. Requires alternative education and referral for intervention and treatment.

HI *1996 Hawaii Sess. Laws, Act 162*

Sec. 2—Outlines procedure to excuse youngsters from compulsory attendance requirements if they are 16 years old and either fail to attend or are disruptive in school. Requires an alternative education plan that includes the possibility of returning to school.

ID *1996 Idaho Sess. Laws, SB 1472*

Prohibits people under age 18 who are not enrolled in school without good cause from obtaining a driver's license or a learner's permit.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 229*

Sec. 121 (a)—Permits a parent to allow a child age 16 or 17 years old to be exempt from compulsory education attendance. Exempts a child age 16 or 17 who is regularly enrolled in an approved alternative educational program from the requirements.

KS *1996 Kan. Sess. Laws, Chap. 482*

Allows certified school employees to conduct expulsion hearings for weapons violations. Allows school boards to revoke transportation privileges for students who are in school detention.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 51*

Requires local school districts to expel students who bring weapons to school for one year. Authorizes local school districts to modify the expulsion penalty on a case-by-case basis. Authorizes alternative education programs for expelled students.

KY *1996 Ky. Acts, Chap. 358*

Sec. 34 (1) and (2)—Requires the court to notify a child's school when the child is adjudicated of a youthful or violent offender or a felony-level offense.

Sec. 61 (1)—Prohibits a school employee from expelling or punishing a child based on information in an adjudication record or conviction of an offense received by the school. Allows a local school board or school official to discipline a student for violating the school's or school district's discipline policy to protect staff and students.

MD *1996 Md. Laws, Chap. 610*

Requires the suspension of driving privileges for drinking or possessing intoxicating beverages on school premises.

MN *1996 Minn. Laws, Chap. 408*

Sec. 5 Art. 2—Expands the community crime prevention grant program to permit funding of youth neighborhood centers, truancy programs, at-risk programs, and various school-based programs.

Sec. 10—Specifies an appropriation for grants on curfew enforcement, truancy prevention, and pretrial diversion.

MO *1996 Mo. Laws, HB 1301 and 1298*

Sec. 160.680—Requires that school discipline policies address the use of corporal punishment and define "weapon" and "acts of violence." Requires that the policy be provided to students and parents. Requires instruction for school employees on student discipline, dealing with school violence and confidentiality. Requires schools to report acts of violence to school employees and to law enforcement.

Sec. 167.161—Authorizes a school board to remove a student who poses a threat of harm to others. Requires the school board to make a good-faith effort to have the parents present at the hearing. Outlines procedures for readmitting a student who is expelled or suspended for a violent act and circumstances for denying readmission.

Sec. 575.090—Requires the state to identify and adopt public school instruction on violence prevention including the negative consequences of gang membership. Requires teacher training on violence prevention and early identification of and intervention in violent behavior. Defines assault on school property as a crime. Requires juvenile officers to notify school officials when a petition is filed alleging that a student has committed certain crimes. Requires information to be reported to appropriate school employees and school personnel. Outlines requirements for alternative education. Requires a school policy on the expungement of disciplinary records.

Sec. B. 302.272—Authorizes the state to deny a school bus permit to any applicant who has committed certain drug or weapons offenses.

Sec. 160.261—Requires schools to report acts of violence to school employees and to law enforcement.

OH *1996 Ohio Laws, HB 81*
Sec. 3313.66—Allows expulsion from school for possessing a firearm or knife brought to school by another person. Allows a school district to refuse to enroll a student who is currently under expulsion from an out-of-state school.

OK *1996 Okla. Sess. Laws, HB 2692*
Sec. 24-101 A, B—Permits a student who has been adjudicated delinquent for a nonviolent offense to be suspended. Requires the student to be placed in a supervised, structured environment in either a home-based school work assignment setting or another appropriate setting. Allows the principal to apply alternative in-school placement options before suspension.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 26*
Sec. 4, 7—Expels, for at least one year, children who bring a weapon on to school property or to any school-sponsored activity. Requires the discovery of a weapon to be reported to law enforcement. Requires schools to maintain updated records of violent incidents. Creates an office within the Department of Education to develop strategies to combat school violence and to award grants.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 29*
Increases the penalty for a parent of a truant to $300 and court costs, or the completion of a parenting education class. Allows community service in lieu of or in addition to any other penalty. Provides that if a parent is not at fault, then the child will be fined $300 or must comply with an adjudication alternative program. Requires the suspension of the driver's license of truants. Requires the Department of Education to develop recommendations for community-based anti-truancy programs.

PA *1995 Pa. Laws, Act 30*
Requires the court to notify the school in that a child is enrolled if the child is adjudicated delinquent. Requires the school to provide such information to any school to which the child transfers.

PR *1996 Puerto Rico Laws, PC 1603*
Makes it a crime to possess or sell illegal drugs on school or recreational property.

RI *1995 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 60*
Allows schools to adopt intervention and mediation programs to address truancy.

RI *1995 R.I. Pub. Laws, Chap. 61*
Sec. 1—Prohibits students from bringing or possessing firearms on school premises and from aiming a firearm or realistic replica of a firearm at school premises, vehicles, staff, students, or visitors. Penalizes the student with a one-year suspension from school. Requires the department of education and secondary education to develop requirements for alternative placement of suspended students.

SC *1996 S.C. Acts, Act 324*
Requires the state to monitor and prosecute crimes that occur on school property or at school events. Requires schools to work with law enforcement on reporting crimes.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 763*
Denies driving privileges to any secondary student for unsatisfactory academic progress.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 814*
Directs the state to establish a school safety center on behavior, discipline, and violence prevention. Requires the center to collect and analyze data on school-related violence among other issues. Authorizes grants to local education agencies.

TN *1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 815*
Sec. 1—Allows the court to determine whether the principal of a child's school should be notified if the child was adjudicated delinquent for certain offenses, or if the child is to be placed in the custody of a state agency.

TN	*1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 863* Allows local education boards to excuse children from compulsory education requirements for reasons specified in state guidelines. Requires legislative approval of the guidelines.
TN	*1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 888* Requires school boards to develop policies and procedures to discipline any student who possesses drugs, drug paraphernalia or a dangerous weapon or who is under the influence of a drug or assaults or threatens to assault a teacher, student, or other person at school or related events. Requires schools to notify law enforcement.
TN	*1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 891* Requires advisory guidelines for local education on developing safe and secure learning environments. Specifies consultation with law enforcement.
TN	*1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 975* Creates a commission to study character education in schools.
TN	*1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 987* Directs the state to develop and recommend training or notification procedures for using two-way communications in schools. Requests a study on school security including two-way communications.
TN	*1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 988* *Sec.* 2-14—Requires local education agencies to develop a code of acceptable behavior and discipline that addresses fighting, weapons, substance abuse, and drug sales. *Sec.* 7—Creates civil liability for assault and property damage on school property or at school-related functions. *Sec.* 11—Requires expulsion for assault or possession of illegal drugs.
TN	*1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 1035* Requires schools receiving funding based on average daily membership to report attendance and truancy for children age 7 and younger.
TN	*1996 Tenn. Pub. Acts, Chap. 1079* *Sec.* 144—Authorizes a judge to fine parents up to $50 or five hours of community service if their child is absent more than five days per school year.
UT	*1996 Utah Laws, Chap. 1* *Sec.* 60—Requires the court, when it adjudicates a minor for a violent crime or a weapons offense, to notify the school superintendent where the minor resides or attends school.
.VA	*1995 Va. Acts, Chap. 755* Authorizes school officials to determine appropriate alternative education placements for court-ordered youth and to place students charged with an offense or adjudicated for certain crimes in an alternative education program.
WI	*1995 Wis. Laws, Act 29* Authorizes a school to deny enrollment to a student during the term of that individual's expulsion from another school. Requires the former school to provide, in writing, the reasons for the expulsion.
WI	*1995 Wis. Laws, Act 32* Adds to the grounds for school expulsion repeated disruptive conduct by a student age 16 and older. *Sec.* 4—Expands the grounds for student expulsion.
WI	*1995 Wis. Laws, Act 33* Extends suspensions, unrelated to possible expulsions, for up to five days. Increases the maximum number of days for student suspension.
WI	*1995 Wis. Laws, Act 75* Requires suspension and the initiation of expulsion proceedings for possessing a firearm while at school.

WI *1995 Wis. Laws, Act 77*
Sec. 938.396, 118.125—Eliminates the opportunity for a juvenile's parent to object to disclosing information to schools and specifies school notification procedures and liability.

Sec. 60.23—Allows towns with a municipal court to enact an ordinance requiring a parent or guardian to ensure that their child attends school.

Sec. 118, 938, 103.72—Creates additional dispositions for juveniles found to be habitually truant including the revocation of a work permit and teen court. Allows the court to order parents to participate in counseling at their expense. Allows the court to suspend driving privileges for children in need of services or protection, or who are habitually truant, for failing to comply with a dispositional order.

Creates a new juvenile code for youth alleged to have violated a criminal, civil, or municipal law or who are alleged to be uncontrollable, dropouts, or habitually truant from home or school.

Sec. 118.125—Eliminates the opportunity for a juvenile's parent to object to disclosing information to schools and specifies school notification procedures and liability. Outlines procedures for schools to disclose records and addresses liability.

Sec. 938.78, 51—Allows exchange of information between social services and other agencies. Requires notification to schools and law enforcement agencies, among others, when a juvenile is released from custody or supervision. Grants a parent access to records at the site of their child's placement.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 82*
Outlines conditions for disclosing juvenile records to school officials.

WV *1996 W. Va. Acts, Chap. 755*
Authorizes schools to determine appropriate alternative education placements for court-ordered youth.

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